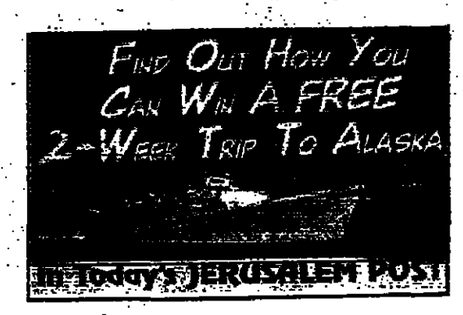
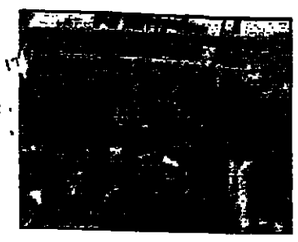


THE JERUSALEM POST

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION



VOLUME LXVII, NUMBER 20171 | TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1999 • 14 ADAR 5759 • 14 THU AL-QADAH 1419 | NIS 5.50 (EILAT NIS 4.70)



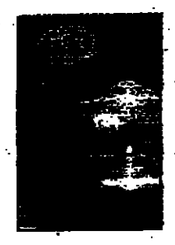
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Miriam Avram (left) tries to interest her granddaughter Sharon, 2, in having her photo taken in her Minnie Mouse costume, at a studio in Kiryat Shmona yesterday. The IDF allowed residents of the North out of bomb shelters yesterday afternoon. (AP)

PM warns Hizbullah not to fire more rockets

Says response to further attacks would be 'a thousand times stronger'

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and DANNA HARMAN

An escalation of hostilities in Lebanon will only take place if Hizbullah fires more rockets into northern Israel, security sources said yesterday. But Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu warned that Israel reserves the right to attack Hizbullah whenever and wherever deemed necessary.

Netanyahu, speaking in Kiryat Shmona, said that Israel's message to "Hizbullah, the Lebanese government, and... also to others" is that "Israeli citizens and towns will no longer be targets for Katyusha rocket attacks, and anyone who strikes us will receive a blow that is a thousand times stronger."

He added that Sunday's IAF raids were "a sign of what will happen next time, and I hope there won't be a next time."

Finally, Netanyahu said that along with the show of force, "Israel is continuously making efforts – sometimes publicly and sometimes secretly – to find a way to remove its forces from Lebanon without endangering the northern border."

In response to Netanyahu's comments, Labor put out a statement saying that "the IDF does not need the fiery declarations of Netanyahu to carry out its job firmly and efficiently, as it always did. As in every other area in which he is stuck, Netanyahu thinks he can solve the Lebanon problem via a television performance."

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, speaking on Channel 2, pledged that if he wins the election, he will get Israel out of Lebanon by next year. "I promise you that – if we create the next government – by June 2000 we will be out of Lebanon, with security assurances, and deep into talks with the Syrians."

Barak further advised the setting up of a multi-party forum, which would work to come up with the best solution to the crisis. "I don't understand why Netanyahu isn't able to gather Ariel Sharon, together with Yossi Sarid, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Yossi Peled, Yitzhak Mordechai, and myself... this is a complex matter that requires everyone's attention."

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, currently on a visit to China, passed messages to Lebanese President Emile Lahoud and Syrian leader Hafez Assad, expressing Washington's view that "we're deeply concerned about the escalation of hostilities," and urging them to "take swift action to calm the situation," a US official said.

The administration, though not Albright herself, also spoke with "senior" Israeli officials, "urging restraint upon them as well," deputy State Department spokesman James Foley told reporters. He termed the current hostilities a "crisis."

"There has been reason for provocation and there is, therefore, compelling reason for all sides to ratchet down the escalatory ladder and move to discuss the problems between them," said Foley, adding that the Lebanon monitoring group, established at the close of Operation Grapes of Wrath, is the proper forum for the parties to address the current situation.

"We regret the loss of life as a result of the roadside bombing in southern Lebanon over the weekend. And as I said, we are deeply concerned about the escalation of hostilities in the area," Foley said. "It's in nobody's interest to see this situation, which is dangerous, continue to escalate.

"We believe that Israel has a right to secure borders, but we also believe that it is imperative, and in the imperative interests of all sides, that this cycle of escalation be reversed and that the parties use the Israel-Lebanon monitoring group to address these problems."

Ambassador to the US Zalman Shoval has asked the administration to call on Lebanon and Syria to "calm down the situation" in southern Lebanon, an embassy official said yesterday.

But the American official said he is unsure the warnings will take hold, saying that "I wouldn't want to predict anything."

In a social gathering Sunday night, Shoval told Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk that "the situation can't go on" as it is, and that Israel considers the recent Hizbullah attacks on the IDF "fairly serious," the embassy official said. The discussion occurred at Indyk's home, where he hosted American ambassadors to North Africa and the Middle East, who traveled to Washington for a three-day annual conference that began yesterday.

See ROCKETS, Page 3

Purim in the shelters, Page 2
Three victims of attack buried, Page 3

UN presence in convoy may have prevented worse tragedy

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Tensions appeared to subside along the Lebanon border yesterday, and residents were told last night they did not have to sleep in bomb shelters. Military sources said the army was restoring the situation to normal, but some forces were still on high alert against Hizbullah rocket attacks.

Northern Command was wrapping up its investigation into Sunday's bombing, which killed Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, commander of the IDF's Liaison Unit to Lebanon, two soldiers, and a reporter. The army yesterday declined to speculate why two other bomb clusters set alongside the ill-fated convoy failed to go off.

But UN officials said that the presence of a UNIFIL vehicle at the tail end of the convoy may have prevented a far worse tragedy. Timur Goksel, spokesman for UNIFIL, said that a UN vehicle with a company commander of the Indian contingent, a major, was behind the last vehicle of the convoy and the officer witnessed the explosion.

"The vehicle was clearly marked as a UN car," said Goksel. "It appears that the presence of the UN car prevented the other bombs going off."

He also said that 15 minutes after the initial explosion, a three-vehicle SLA convoy rushing to the scene was hit 1,300 meters away by a roadside bomb. That bomb only damaged the last vehicle and caused no injuries. Goksel added that the bombs which failed to go off had been hidden in fake stones. IDF and SLA sappers neutralized them.

Sources in Northern Command totally dismissed the UNIFIL account. One person who was in the last vehicle in the ill-fated convoy confirmed that a UN vehicle did arrive shortly after the explosion, but said it was nowhere near it during the critical time that the other bombs could have been detonated.

Still, the IDF declined to elaborate on why the two other clusters of bombs failed to explode. There were several senior officers in the convoy, including two colonels.

Goksel added that UNIFIL forces had been put on full alert, but they too had lowered it a notch by the end of the day, when it became clear that neither Hizbullah nor the Israelis wished to escalate matters.

Meanwhile, military sources said yesterday that SLA militiamen killed two Hizbullah guerrillas in a clash late Sunday night. The SLA men were on an operation in the western sector of the security zone when they detected the guerrillas near the village of Chihin.

See UN, Page 3

A-G asks Supreme Court to reconsider Sheinbein ruling

By DAN IZENBERG

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein yesterday asked the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision not to extradite Samuel Sheinbein, the Israeli-American wanted on suspicion of murder in the United States.

In his three-page request, Rubinstein wrote that the case deserves to be heard again because of its importance for Israel's relations with other countries and because the Extradition Law, as currently interpreted, could turn Israel into a haven for criminals.

In a split vote last Thursday, the court overturned Jerusalem District Court's ruling that Sheinbein could be extradited even though he is an Israeli citizen. Court President Aharon Barak and Justice Aharon Kedmi backed the lower court, which found that Sheinbein was not closely associated with Israel and could therefore be extradited to the US.

Sheinbein's attorney, David Liba'i, appealed the decision, arguing that the Extradition Law, which bars the extradition of suspects who were Israeli citizens at the time of their alleged crime, does not distinguish between one type of citizen and another. Three of the justices, Theodore Orr, Eliahu Mazza, and Meir Ilan, agreed with Liba'i.

In asking for a new hearing before an expanded panel, Rubinstein reiterated some of the arguments made by Barak in his minority opinion.

See SHEINBEIN, Page 2

Rabbinate to back bill to abolish religious councils

By HAIM SHAPIRO

The chief rabbis yesterday met with representatives of the religious parties and agreed to back a bill to abolish the local religious councils which they hope will be passed during the present Knesset recess, before the coming elections.

The move, intended to prevent Reform and Conservative representatives from participating in the councils, is similar to previous proposals by Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron. Until now, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau has opposed abolishing the religious councils.

In the present system, some of the members of the religious councils are appointed by the municipal council according to its political party representation, and Meretz has named people identified with the Reform and Conservative movements as its representatives.

According to the proposals put forward yesterday, the religious councils would be replaced by an auxiliary body to provide religious services, alongside the local rabbinate.

The move is, in effect, an admission of the failure of the amendment to the Religious Services Law, which was passed little over a month ago by just one vote, specifying that members of the religious councils would have to sign an undertaking to accept the halachic rulings of the chief rabbis and the local chief rabbinate on matters relating to the religious councils.

Following passage of the amendment, the Reform and Conservative representatives indicated that despite their unhappiness about doing so, they would sign such an undertaking. Some influential rabbis, especially those identified with Degel Hatorah, ruled that members of the religious councils should boycott the council meetings so as to avoid sitting together with the Reform and Conservative representatives, even after they had signed the undertakings.

In an announcement, the Chief Rabbinate said that a legal committee, including the legal advisor of the rabbinate and the legal advisors of the interior and religious affairs ministries would draw up the proposed bill. According to the announcement, the backers of the bill hope to see it passed by the Knesset during the present Knesset recess, before the coming elections.

However, Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center, pointed out that in order to put a bill through the Knesset, it would have to be presented as government legislation, and thus pass the Ministerial Committee on Law. Even if it was passed by this committee, it would then have to pass a first reading, go back to committee and then pass a second and third reading.

"It is shocking to see what extremes they will go to out of their hatred of the Reform and Conservative movements," Regev said.

Regev also said that he intends to appeal to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein over the announced participation of the legal advisors of the interior and religious affairs ministries in the committee drafting the proposed legislation.

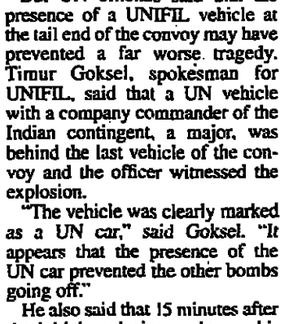
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Meimad: Barak to drop anti-haredi slogans

By CALEV BEN-DAVID

After the formation of the One Israel list, Labor Party leader Ehud Barak will change his campaign and drop those slogans attacking yeshivot and the haredim which have been criticized as divisive, according to Rabbi Michael Melchior, chairman of Meimad's executive committee.

Meimad, a dovish, moderate Orthodox group, is expected to officially join together with Labor and David Levy's Gesher party to form the One Israel list later this week.



Rabbi Michael Melchior
(Anel Jerozolimski/Jerusalem Post)

As part of that deal, said Melchior, Barak will change the tone of his campaigns and stop using such slogans as "Money for hospitals, not yeshivot" and "Netanyahu gives in to haredim and extremists."

"The attacks on yeshivot, which Barak's been doing as part of campaign created by people who may know a lot about elections, but not about Israeli society, has not been the right campaign," said Melchior.

"I think that after extensive talks with Meimad, Barak realizes he has to use a different language toward Israeli society. Barak has so much that is positive to offer, and I think he's realized that One Israel has to have a more inclusive message.

"The great danger that the whole center-left is becoming anti-religious," says Melchior. "Instead, what Labor and Meimad will now do is open up a new vision for the future, in a campaign which will be directed by both religious and secular people together."

See SLOGANS, Page 2

CIA's secret anti-terrorist weapon: Disruption

By JOHN DIAMOND

WASHINGTON (AP) – US intelligence has conducted successful "disruption" operations against terrorists in as many as 10 countries in the last six months, mostly in the Middle East, according to a senior Clinton administration official.

Frustrated by restrictions on using military force against terrorists, the US is turning to a lower-profile tactic. The CIA calls it "disruption" – working with foreign law-enforcement services to harass terrorists around the world.

Least well known of counter-terrorist weapons, disruption involves using new or long-established clandestine alliances with foreign intelligence and law-enforcement services in the tracking down, breaking up, and knocking over of international terrorist cells.

The key to disruption is that it takes place before terrorists strike, amounting to a preemptive, offensive form of counter-terrorism, said Richard Clarke, President Bill Clinton's counter-terrorism coordinator.

"If we have an opportunity to disrupt a terrorist cell that could potentially threaten us, we do it," Clarke said in a recent interview. "We are no longer going to wait for the attack. We are going to preempt, we are going to disrupt, and we have done that a very great deal."

Paul Pillar, deputy chief of the CIA's Counter-terrorist Center, said in a recent speech that disruption focuses on impeding "the recruitment, the cell-building, the moving of men, money, and materiel, and the mere maintaining of a presence in a foreign country."

Disruption has the advantage of utmost secrecy, hiding the hand of the US, and avoiding the cumbersome congressional reporting requirements that go with CIA-directed covert operations.

"If it's something major, a significant development, then Congress is informed," said a US intelligence official.

Disruption of terrorist cells represents the nearly daily business of the CIA's new Global Response Center, a hi-tech command center on the sixth floor of the agency's headquarters in suburban Virginia.

The recent arrest of PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan is one of the rare examples where the disruption tactic gained public notice. US officials say the US provided Turkey with critical information.

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NEWS
in brief

Assad, Lahoud discuss Israel-Lebanon tension

Syrian President Hafez Assad phoned Lebanese President Emile Lahoud yesterday to discuss tension in south Lebanon, a spokesman for Assad said. The spokesman said the two "exchanged views on the recent developments in the region and the situation in south Lebanon in light of the Israeli aggressions and threats".

The official Syrian newspaper *Tishreen* yesterday called on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon to avoid more losses. It said Israel's full withdrawal from the security zone and "engagement in serious peace talks with Syria and Lebanon" would bring it peace and security. *Reuters*

PM orders aid for North

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday directed Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit and the Israel Lands Administration to facilitate the expansion of communities along the northern confrontation line, in accordance with the decision of the ILA board of directors.

Netanyahu reached his decision following a request from the family of the late Maj. Eitan Balahsan, who was killed last week in southern Lebanon. Family members had sought the prime minister's assistance in realizing Balahsan's wish and enabling the expansion of their community of Ramot Naftali. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Councils urged to host northern kids for Purim

Education Ministry Director-General Benzion Dell has urged all heads of regional councils to invite children from the North to celebrate Purim in the safety of their communities. Dell, joined by Adi Eldar, chairman of the Union of Local Authorities in Israel, called on heads in the center of the country to host children and their families from the North for the Purim holiday. President Ezer Weizman will host 400 children from the North for Purim on Wednesday. Beit Hanassi announced last night. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Hotels vacancy up in wake of attacks

Hotels and guest accommodations in the North suffered a renewed blow to their business as hundreds of Israelis who had planned to go away for Purim cancelled their reservations. According to Moshe Attiya, director of the Upper Galilee Tourist Council, about 40 percent of those who had reserved rooms cancelled.

In Nahariya and Kiryat Shmona, Egged stopped running local busses, although it is continuing to provide bus service to places elsewhere in the country. Egged spokesman Ron Ratner said the decision to discontinue local service was taken in coordination with the security services. *Haim Shapiro*

Couple wed despite Katyushas

As the Katyushas fell on Sunday evening, Ran and Abigail Alon decided to transfer their wedding from Kiryat Shmona to Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar. Ran, a resident of Kiryat Shmona, and his wife Abigail, from Hatzor Haglilit, had their photographs taken in Tiberias when reports from Lebanon began arriving. Immediately following the hupah, which took place in Kiryat Shmona, guests drove to Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar where the wedding party resumed until midnight. "Today after the incidents, it seems to me we will not live in Kiryat Shmona," the groom said yesterday. *Itim*

US defense secretary delays visit

US Secretary of Defense William Cohen postponed for one week his planned visit to Israel, defense sources said yesterday. Cohen's one day visit was to have taken place this Thursday. The visit will allow Cohen to get acquainted with newly appointed Defense Minister Moshe Arens. But Cohen is also expected to meet with former defense minister Yitzhak Mordechai. Mordechai and Cohen developed warm and close relations over the past two years and are expected to dine together, said sources close to Mordechai. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Druse cemetery given military status

Defense Minister Moshe Arens yesterday approved a recommendation from the Public Council for Commemorating Soldiers to turn the sections of military graves in the Druse villages of Beit Jann and Hurfeish into military cemeteries. This new status means that memorial ceremonies will be held in the cemeteries on Memorial Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Soldiers shoot Palestinian at checkpoint

Soldiers shot and moderately wounded a Palestinian man yesterday when they opened fire on a car with Palestinian license plates near Mevo Horon after the driver "tried to break through an army checkpoint, endangering the lives of soldiers," the IDF Spokesman said. The IDF imposed a closure on the territories Saturday.

Also yesterday Army Radio reported on a Palestinian prisoner riot in Megiddo military jail. The radio said prisoners rioted for several hours to protest interrogations conducted by prison officials. Three guards were slightly wounded. *AP*

Palestinian gets life in prison in subway bomb plot

Gazi Ibrahim Mezer, a 25-year-old Palestinian who plotted in 1997 to bomb a busy New York subway train in order to "burn the Jews" and free imprisoned Arab militants was sentenced in New York yesterday to life in prison.

Reading from a rambling statement in federal court, Mezer called himself a victim of Israeli and US oppression. "They said Hitler killed six million, but that's a lie," he said. "If there is justice in the world, the Israeli leaders should be tried as war criminals for genocide." AP

The Jerusalem Pencil Factory
Staff, Management and their families

extend their heartfelt condolences and share in the grief of the family on the passing of its founder, director and man of many deeds

Dr. ALEXANDER RAFAELI

The funeral will leave from Beit Hahesped Kehillat Yerushalayim (opposite the Herzog Hospital) for Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem on Tuesday, March 2, 1999 (14 Adar 5759).

The shiva will be held at the home of the Rafaeli family, 12 Rehov Disraeli, Jerusalem.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our husband, father & grandfather

The Journalist

SIGISMUND GOREN (GOLDSTEIN) ז"ל

The funeral took place yesterday, Monday 1.3.99, 13 Adar 5759

Shiva at Haran family, 1 Rav Ashi St., Ramat Aviv

The Family

Purim in the shelters

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Kiryat Shmona yesterday morning looked like the Pied Piper had come through and rounded up all the children. There were none in sight.

They could be found playing backgammon underground in the bomb shelters. Kicking a ball against its heavy iron doors. Rolled up in a blanket on a fold down metal cot watching a video. It was Purim in Kiryat Shmona and the children marked another holiday in the bunkers.

"They pulled one over on us," said 11-year-old Shimon. "They promised us a Purim carnival and parade today. And what do we get? We have to spend our day in the bomb shelter."

The fifth grader tossed his soccer ball to his friend near the opening of the bomb shelter where they had ventured. His costume of a Hapoel Haifa soccer player had been tossed aside in his bedroom upstairs. He didn't know where. He didn't care.

Ben, 11, was planning to dress up as a punk rocker and head over to the Kanyon 8 mall where posters around town had promised a Purim carnival, a costume parade and surprises for the kids.

"It's canceled. Everything is canceled," said Ben as he gave a swift kick to his soccer ball right into a cement wall.

"The children wait for Purim the whole year and now it's gone, ruined. We can't celebrate Purim next week, can we? And they can't very well dress up in the shelters because in the bomb shelters no one sees you, so what's the point?" says Miriam Bar, mother of a 13-year-old "witch" and a four-year-old "Batman." Costumes that will never be worn.

"Listen carefully," said Amos Shimshon, venturing out to stock up on groceries before residents were ordered back into the shelters. "You notice? There are no caps. These streets should have been filled with parading kids dressed in costumes and shooting cap guns. What's Purim without caps?"

"Missing this holiday is a crime for the children," said Shimshon, the local optometrist and father of four. "The worse thing is the kids don't understand that you have to celebrate today. We live in a different mentality up here."

Shimshon didn't need to force his kids to stay in the shelter. They felt fear all by themselves. They had even started wetting the bed again, he said.

"The kids grow up with this. The children of Kiryat Shmona can tell the difference between outgoing artillery and incoming rockets. And they fear it. We don't have to force them to stay in the shelters. They've seen the damage those rockets can cause," said Yosef Stapher, 49.

Like many people in this town, he too was scratching out a living on unemployment.

The evening before residents were still told to be on alert and the IDF had not lifted its warnings for people to stay in shelters. Eli Roba, director of the city's cultural center, said that even the apparent calm could still be broken.

"There is an intention to give some kind of Purim celebration and our people will sit tomorrow to think of something. The problem is that some of the people who need to be involved have left the city," Roba said, adding that one idea was to hold a Purim party for the residents later in the center of the country.

He also noted that some children were able partially to celebrate Purim at school on Sunday before the alert was called.

One of the few shops open was the local florist. Oshrat Solomon, 21, bent her slight frame over an outside table and concentrated on the floral wreath she has been asked to make. Two others leaned against the wall. They were for the funerals of the soldiers killed in Lebanon.

"We knew this was going to happen. It's been tense for days and then the Katyushas hit up at Margoliot yesterday. I really pity the kids," she says. "I grew up celebrating holidays and birthdays in the shelters. It's a sad way to grow up."

Suddenly, as if on cue, a jet broke the sound barrier as it streaked into Lebanon. She dropped her clippers and shuddered.

"I don't plan to raise my kids the same way. Lots of my friends are leaving and I am leaving too," said Solomon, whose classmate was killed by a Katyusha rocket attack five years ago.

"People say they get used to the Katyushas and the perpetual sense of threat. I haven't. I couldn't sleep last night worrying if a Katyusha was going to hit me," she said.

"My little brother is joining the army in four more months. He's going to Golani. Of course I don't want us in Lebanon."

In Kiryat Shmona people may disagree on what has to be done, but they all expressed some sort of opinion that the ever-present threat of Katyusha rockets, this sword of Damocles which hangs over them, has to end.

"The time has come for the army to do something. We have the strength. Our army is the mightiest in the region. We have to use it. We have to kill them all. I know that sounds awful, but we only have one life here and we must protect it," said Solomon.

She mentioned the Four Mothers with contempt.

"I understand their sorrow, but let them come and spend one night in the shelters with us and see how it really is," she said.

Kiryat Shmona is an aging city. In 1990, 394 babies were born. Last year the number was only 300, says Shimshon, who is also on the municipal parents' committee.

"It's not the Katyushas. They rarely kill. It's the blow to the morale. It's the feeling of coming home and finding it a burned out ruin; of not being able to make a living. That's the tragedy of Kiryat Shmona. Tax breaks don't affect 80 percent of this town because they are barely making minimum wage anyway," said Shimshon.

Ruti Bitton leaned across her coffee table, painting her nails black. She ignored the TV warning to remain in the shelters. The family parrot squawked in the kitchen.

"Forty-eight families live in this block of flats. We all slept in the shelters last night. I can't stay in there any more, you know," she said. Her mother Kochava served mint tea and cakes.

"I served with (Brig.-Gen.) Erez Gerstein. It's very hard to see generals killed, it's hard to see drivers and soldiers killed. We want this story to be finished. You need to hit them hard and get out," she said.

Her brother Golan had just returned from Canada three days ago but was willing to remain in the communal shelter for as long as it took to be rid of the Katyusha threat.

"Withdrawing from Lebanon is a risk, but you need to try it. We don't have a problem with that gamble," he said.

Four Mothers demonstrate for Lebanon withdrawal

By AMY KLEIN

Red flaming torches lit up the darkening sky as the Four Mothers movement protested near the prime minister's residence yesterday evening to demand a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon.

It was the second demonstration demanding an IDF withdrawal since the announcement that three soldiers and a reporter were killed in Lebanon on Sunday. That day some 40 protesters caused a traffic jam in Tel Aviv, blocking the road in front of the Defense Ministry.

Yesterday, only about two dozen people demonstrated, carrying signs like, "We have no more sons for wars!" and "1,236 dead, for what?"

"We are still here with the same demands, because nothing has changed," said Tsafi Shimoni, a member of the organization, with two sons currently serving in the IDF. "There are solutions, but no one has the guts to make them," she said.

Across the street from the demonstration, half a dozen former Kach activists counter-protested, shouting "destroy Lebanon!" and holding signs that read "You are giving Hizbullah backup for killing us!" and "You desecrate the memory of Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein [head of the IDF's Liaison Unit to south Lebanon killed on Sunday]!"

"We have to go in and bomb Lebanon like in a real war, the way that America decimates Iraq," said Itamar Ben-Gvir. "These demonstrations led by the Four Mothers demoralize our soldiers," he added.



Tsafi Shimoni, a member of Four Mothers, demonstrates for immediate IDF withdrawal from Lebanon outside the prime minister's residence in Jerusalem last night. (Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)

Ben-Gvir, who was recently arrested and then acquitted of attacking the bodyguards of Palestinian adviser Ahmed Tibi, has never served in the IDF because the IDF wouldn't take him, he said.

At the Four Mothers protest, Yael Aviv responded to the demoralization accusation: "Why should I feel bad? I've spoken to my son and his friends, who don't mind what we do. I tell them you do the best you can while we try to get you out of there."

She added, "They brainwash the soldiers. The IDF tells them, 'you are protecting the North' and so that's what the soldiers think. Look what happens – Katyushas are falling, the residents are hiding in shelters and the soldiers are in Lebanon. How is that protecting the North?"

Limited choices for the Lebanon quandary

ANALYSIS

By GERALD M. STEINBERG

There are still many questions about the attack that killed Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein and three other Israelis in the car with him in south Lebanon on Sunday.

Did Hizbullah have advance information regarding the convoy, or was this a part of the general pattern of attacks?

How was Hizbullah able to lay large road-side bombs under the noses of the UNIFIL forces that are supposed to be "keeping the peace" in the area?

What was the connection between the attack and the rocket barrages on northern Israel earlier in the morning?

Whatever the answers, the short retaliatory attack is unlikely to change the situation.

The terrorist bases are deliberately well protected against air strikes. Numerous large-scale ground attacks into southern Lebanon, such as Operation Litani, the 1982 war ("Peace for Galilee"), and the 1996 Grapes of Wrath operation all failed to improve the situation, and instead strengthened the guerrillas.

Israel cannot evict the residents of the "security zone" who live near the border, and they, along with the terrain, provide cover for the guerrilla war.

Despite the new and more aggressive strategy which has increased the cost to Hizbullah, the IDF's technological superiority is neutralized in this kind of war.

To overcome these limits, Israel has responded with long-range air and naval bombardment.

This risks escalation with the Syrians, who provide protection for Hizbullah, though neither Israel nor Syria want a direct clash.

If these attacks cause enough pain, particularly to the Lebanese, Hizbullah is forced to accept some limits, as evidenced in the 1996 cease-fire agreements.

Indeed, the restrictions on attacks on civilians have reduced the rocket attacks on the northern settlements.

However, this leaves Hizbullah free to concentrate its attacks on IDF outposts, convoys, and patrols.

A unilateral withdrawal would involve the risk of renewed rocket and terror attacks from southern Lebanon, signal Israeli weakness, and invite much wider warfare.

This policy would only be possible following a heavy and successful Israeli attack, allowing the IDF to withdraw with its head held high.

However, past experience has shown that this course is also risky. If there were simple answers, they would have been tried long ago.

SLOGANS
Continued from Page 1

A Labor spokesman responded yesterday that Labor had no intentions of dropping the slogans, and said that Barak had not made any agreement to that effect with Meimad.

The Labor central committee is scheduled to meet Thursday to ratify the agreement joining the party with Meimad and Gesher to create the One Israel list, despite strong opposition from several Labor MKs.

The agreement specifies that a Meimad candidate will be given a "safe" 17th slot (along with slots 30 and 38), as well as a promise that if Barak wins he will appoint a Meimad minister who is not an MK.

Sources in Meimad said that the former is likely to be Melchior, and the latter Prof. Avi Ravitzky.

Sarah Honig contributed to this report.

SHEINBEIN
Continued from Page 1

He said the rationale for not extraditing a citizen is that he will not be familiar with the law, language, or customs of the foreign country and because it is inappropriate to try a person when he is cut off from his own environment. Neither of these criteria apply to the American-born Sheinbein, wrote Rubinstein.

He added that the narrow definition of the term "citizen," as adopted by the Supreme Court majority, undermines the goal of the extradition laws, which is to create a mechanism for international cooperation in law enforcement.

Rubinstein added that there is all the more need to differentiate between types of citizens because it is easy to obtain Israeli citizenship.

Meanwhile, Sheinbein was remanded in custody for an indeterminate amount of time and given 15 days to respond to the appeal for another hearing.

COUNCILS
Continued from Page 1

Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of Israel's Conservative movement and a new member of the Jerusalem Religious Council, said that his movement will use all of its political influence to oppose such legislation. He noted that the amendment had been passed by only one vote and that it was unlikely that MK Yitzhak Mordechai, leader of the Center Party, would again vote for a proposal intended against the Reform and Conservative movements.

"I believe that Yitzhak Mordechai and his friends have learned their lesson," he said, referring to the difficulties which representatives of the new party faced in their fund-raising efforts in the US following Mordechai's vote.

CIA
Continued from Page 1

Typically, a disruption operation begins with a scrap of information – an intercepted cell phone call, word that a known terrorist has crossed into another country, a report from a field surveillance team.

The CIA might provide a cooperative foreign intelligence or law-enforcement service with evidence that could provide the legal pretext for an arrest, such as information that a terrorist cell crossed a border with false papers or illegal arms.

"It's rare that we foil a plot that is advanced enough to be clearly identified as a plot," said a senior intelligence official involved in counter-terrorism. The aim is "making professional life difficult for a terrorist group or cell."

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Former defense minister Yitzhak Mordechai pays his condolences to the grieving family and friends of Chief Warrant Officer Imad Abu Rish, 34, at his funeral in the Druse village of Yirka yesterday. (Ilan Ossendryver / Israel Sun)



Sharon Roeh, wife of Israel Radio reporter Ilan Roeh, 32, gazes at his gravesite during his funeral in Moshav Yanuv yesterday. (AP)

Three victims of Hizbullah roadside bomb laid to rest

Jerusalem Post Staff

Israel Radio reporter Ilan Roeh, Chief Warrant Officer Imad Abu Rish, and Sgt.-Sgt. Omer Alkabetz, who were killed by a roadside bomb in southern Lebanon on Sunday, were laid to rest yesterday.

Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, the fourth person killed in the Hizbullah attack, will be buried today at three o'clock at the Kibbutz Reshafim cemetery.

Hundreds of relatives, friends, colleagues and public figures attended the funeral of Roeh, 32, in Moshav Yanuv. Though a civilian, Roeh was buried with full military honors, in recognition of his services to the nation in reporting on military activities in the security zone.

In his eulogy IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Oded Ben-Ami said Roeh provided "a picture of the north", and said he would be missed by both the military and the media.

Channel 1 reporter Menachem Horowitz said, "There was no chance of dissuading a dedicated journalist like Ilan Roeh from going on patrol." MK Shimon Peres recounted the long hours he had spent in Roeh's company, calling him a journalist "who poured out light rather than pain." Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said it was clear from Roeh's work that he loved the residents of northern Israel, and the nation as a whole.

Roeh leaves behind wife Sharon, parents Rafael and Olga, a brother and a sister.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, former chief of general staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, former deputy chief of general staff Matan Vilnai, and former defense minister Yitzhak Mordechai were some of the IDF top brass, past and present, who attended the funeral of Abu Rish, 34, in the Druse village of Yirka.

In his eulogy Mordechai said of Abu Rish, who served as driver and guide for many high-ranking officers in the security zone: "When [he] drove us, we always felt we were in safe hands." Brig.-Gen. (res.) Amal Asad, former deputy commander of the Lebanon Liaison Unit where Abu Rish served, said he had been "the ears and the eyes and the hands of us all."

Druse MK Sallah Tarif in his eulogy called for withdrawal of the IDF from south Lebanon.

There were also reported protests at the fact the government did not send an official representative to the funeral.

Abu Rish leaves behind a wife and four small children.

Thousands were present when Alkabetz, 22, was laid to rest in the military section of the Rehovot cemetery. Among those attending were members of the Scouts, to whom Alkabetz had devoted a year before enlisting in the IDF, founding a branch of the organization in Or Yehuda.

Lt. Col. Z., communications officer at the Lebanon Liaison Unit, described how in his capacity as radio operator for Gerstein Alkabetz "always gave and never demanded anything. 24 hours a day [he] operated the radio with dedication, knowing how to establish contact with whomever [Gerstein] needed to reach." The officer also said the sound of Alkabetz's laughter is fondly remembered by his fellow soldiers.

Shlomi, one of Alkabetz's comrades from the army, recalled how he had insisted on returning to combat service after an injury removed him from the Golani Reconnaissance unit, because he wanted to give to the nation. He added: "Now [he has] given everything."

ELECTIONS

notebook

Arens moves up, others stay put

The internal Likud tribunal reviewing the complaints of several candidates who felt they had been placed unfairly low on the Likud list after the party elections last month has found in favor of Defense Minister Moshe Arens, but ruled against five other complainants. The five, including former MK Yossi Ahimeir, are now considering appealing to the Tel Aviv District Court. Ahimeir said last night.

The Likud internal court changed Arens's position from the 26th slot to the 16th. The change was made in accordance to a previous decision by the Likud's election committee under which the second to 16th slots inclusive would be for those running on the national list, and only after that slot would the positions for different sectors and regions come. Arens competed on the national list and came in the 16th position according to the number of votes, but for some reason the position went to MK Avraham Herschson as the first of the regional/sectoral candidates and Arens was placed 26th.

Liat Collins

Porat, Hendel may join Tekuma

National Religious Party MKs Zvi Hendel and Hanan Porat are to decide by the end of the week whether to leave the party and join Tekuma, the religious settlers' party.

Porat "wants to leave politics, but will stay if I go with him [to Tekuma]. I am considering this, and will decide after Purim." Hendel said last night Hendel said the idea of making changes to the NRP list was "unrealistic and pathetic." A week ago, the NRP central committee elected Hendel to the seventh slot, while Porat was pushed from his current No. 5 to an unrealistic 11th slot.

The outcry from Porat supporters led party leader Education Minister Yitzhak Levy to try to get the top six candidates to forward a proposal to make changes to the list. A survey has found that if Hendel and Porat leave the party, it could cost the party some seats.

Nina Gilbert

Solving politics with levitation

Israel can make peace with its neighbors, heal its internal rifts, and have healthier and more intelligent citizens if it adopts the "technology" the Natural Law Party outlined yesterday at a press conference in Tel Aviv.

"We are presenting a real plan for peace that has worked in other places and will work here," party chairman Reuven Zelinkovsky said.

The party, which operates in more than 80 other countries, advocates tapping into the intelligence found in nature to achieve positive results in the political arena and in society, explained Dr. Reinhard Borowitz, secretary-general of the Maharishi International Council of Natural Law Parties.

"Conflicts, such as here in the Middle East, arise when collective consciousness is weak, turbulent, and disorderly," Zelinkovsky said. "The source of the problem lies deeper than race, religion, politics, or terrorist groups. ...Only relief from stress in society can resolve the problem."

Heidi J. Gleit

ithdrawal

Lebanese celebrate, brace for renewed attacks

News agencies

Schools closed and streets were empty in southern Lebanon yesterday as Lebanese braced for renewed fighting between IDF troops and Hizbullah guerrillas.

In Lebanon, there were fears that Israel was about to embark on a bombing campaign similar to operations in 1993 and 1996 that killed more than 300 Lebanese civilians. The IAF struck guerrilla targets Sunday, some of them far north of the border.

In Marjayoun, the main town in the security zone, the streets were deserted and crossing points between the security zone and the rest of Lebanon were closed – a precaution in times of tension.

Schools in government-controlled villages along the front-line were closed, too. In several villages in the southern Bekaa Valley, residents prepared shelters and moved into ground-floor residences.

Hizbullah sealed off a neighborhood in Baalbek that was bombed Sunday night. A two-meter-wide crater on a road could be seen from a distance.

Residents said an abandoned three-story hotel that once served as a Hizbullah base was destroyed, but there were no casualties.

Some schools were closed in Baalbek, long considered a Hizbullah stronghold. Smaller crowds than usual visited the town market.

Schoolchildren in south Lebanon stayed at home with uneasy parents even though the last active Arab-Israeli front remained quiet after fierce air and artillery assaults overnight.

"Last night was tough on all of us. We hope we never go through it again," said Ali Sabri, a storekeeper at Majdal Selim village which borders the security zone.



Hizbullah Secretary-General Sheikh Naim Kassem (AP)

UNIFIL was on high alert in case Israel decided to make good on its threat and turn the tension into full-scale war.

"There is nothing unusual but we are staying on alert. We were on maximum alert Sunday," spokesman Timor Goksel said.

Hizbullah celebrated last night its bloodiest attack this year and vowed to carry on fighting.

"This operation is a new victory that will be for sure a major turning point for the resistance and will leave an important impact on the people of the region, especially in Lebanon and Palestine," Hizbullah Secretary-General Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah said in a statement.

Hizbullah said its killing of Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein and three other Israelis on Sunday did not alter its commitment to a 1996 agreement with Israel against targeting civilians.

"What the Islamic resistance did was part of a legitimate right and a holy duty to defend our land in the context of the April understanding which we upheld and still uphold," Hussein Khalil, political assistant to Hizbullah's general secretary, told Reuters.

"All the threats the enemy is launching will not change the aggressive nature of its occupation or the nature of the resistance and its ability," Hussein told Reuters.

"What were this general and the Israeli soldiers with him doing in Lebanese territory except planning to conduct aggression against our people?" he said.

Hizbullah supporters celebrated into the night after the guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the ambush Sunday.

Convoys of cars, blaring their horns, wound through the Hizbullah stronghold in the southern suburbs of Beirut. Passengers waved the Iranian-backed group's flag and gave "V" for victory signs.

Supporters handed out sweets. Chants of "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great) rang from mosque loudspeakers and there were calls for the public to back Hizbullah's battle with Israel. Members of the party fanned out with glass boxes collecting donations.

Hizbullah's al-Manar Television broadcast the celebrations along with archive footage of its guerrillas in action and old television pictures of Gerstein with his troops in the security zone. The group's a-Nour Radio broadcasted military marches and Islamic songs.

ROCKETS

Continued from Page 1

Also yesterday, Richard Roth, the charge d'affaires at the US Embassy met with Defense Minister Moshe Arens to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Roth is filling in for Ambassador Edward Walker, who is out of the country. "The message is to exercise maximum restraint and similar messages have been relayed to Syria and Lebanon," a US official said.

Netanyahu convened the security cabinet for an emergency session on the situation in Lebanon. The three-hour meeting was reportedly tense, with arguments breaking out among some of the senior ministers as to what the government response to the recent attacks should be.

The ministers said in a statement after the session that they were briefed on the situation and were informed that "the army is poised to continue to fight against terrorist forces in Lebanon."

They also sent condolences to the families of the victims of Sunday's attack. Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein, Chief Warrant Officer Imad Abu Rish, Staff.-Sgt. Omer Alkabetz, and Israel Radio correspondent Ilan Roeh.

Netanyahu said Israel will only pull out troops if the Lebanese government disarms Hizbullah and deploys its soldiers along the border. If we don't act, the situation will be much worse. We will strike at the Hizbullah with great force and, I am able to say, increasing force, if that is what is needed."

Netanyahu added that the air force carried out an unusually harsh attack and he thought that Hizbullah had received the message. "Our policy [Sunday] is not a one-time act but based on a cabinet decision, and that policy will continue."

Meanwhile, Likud MK Uzi Landau, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said that "we should abandon the rules of the game under the Grapes of Wrath understandings, under which we say we are prepared now and again for Kiryat Shmona to be hit or IDF soldiers to be hurt and we won't exact a price for it. If we continue like this, the terror attacks will increase in the future to even more than they were in the past."

He repeated his stand that Israel should attack Syrian targets in Lebanon, and also called for heavy attacks on Lebanese infrastructure.

Labor MK Yossi Beilin, who heads a pro-withdrawal movement, rejected Landau's ideas as "an invitation to a nightmare... If Landau is calling for an escalation to Lebanese and Syrian targets, it means that the residents of the North are entering a nightmare from this moment. If that's what he wants for them, I praise his honesty in saying it... On the other hand, there is a proposal to get out of Lebanon either through negotiations with the Syrians or, if that doesn't work, through withdrawal."

Hizbullah's second-in-command, Sheikh Naim Kassem, yesterday promised more attacks against Israeli forces and the South Lebanon Army, and refused to say what the guerrillas would do if Israel expanded the conflict.

"We deal according to the facts and results, not based on statements," he told reporters in south Beirut.

Hizbullah sealed off a neighborhood in the eastern city of Baalbek that was bombed by Israeli jets Sunday night. A 2-meter wide crater on a road could be seen from a distance.

Residents said an abandoned three-story hotel that once served as a Hizbullah base was destroyed, but there were no casualties. Kassem acknowledged that one Hizbullah base in Baalbek had been hit.

Hillel Kuttler, Liat Collins and news agencies contributed to this report.

Bezeq phone rates to drop in April

By JUDY SIEGEL

Bezeq rates will drop on April 1 by an average of 8.17 percent, and an additional 2.14% on January 1, 2000.

This was decided last night by Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit after adopting recommendations made by the Granau Committee dealing with Bezeq.

The two ministries will soon present a proposal to the Knesset Finance Committee with a detailed list of rate changes.

The committee, headed by Hebrew University economics Prof. Reuven Granau, called for an overhaul of Bezeq rates that would lead to the opening of domestic telecommunications infrastructure to competition.

Under the new plan, some charges will decrease by as much as 30%, while others will rise.

Communications Ministry Director-General Daniel Rosenne said last night that rates for services involving "a lot of movement" would drop more, meaning the more one uses them, the cheaper they will be.

Bi-monthly service fees will increase somewhat (except for the elderly and poor people who make few calls), while charges for phone units would drop, encouraging increased use.

This would also make Internet use from home significantly cheaper, and Bezeq will probably offer special "bundling" or flat rates for local calls made to Internet service providers.

The ministries' final calculations will take the inflation rate into effect.

In addition, Bezeq will have to increase efficiency in 1999 by 6% and in 2000 by another 7%.

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UN

Continued from Page 1

They opened fire on the guerrillas causing a bomb they were transporting to explode, killing both of them.

Hizbullah fired mortars at the SLA force in the village and at an SLA outpost nearby. There were no injuries, but some damage was caused to the village. IDF and SLA artillery returned fire. Military sources said the two guerrillas had been trying to plant roadside bombs.

Hizbullah did not have any comment on the incident.

The clash came during the IAF's air strikes in Lebanon. The IDF released films of their surgical strike the night before. Channel 1 quoted military sources as saying that the targets appeared empty.

Yesterday, IAF jets broke the sound barrier over Beirut and continued to show its presence in the skies of Lebanon.

There were reports that residents of a few villages north of the security zone had been fleeing northward until tensions subsided.

The IDF moved a convoy of artillery northward through the streets of Kiryat Shmona in a public display of force. Residents were kept in their shelters for the morning, fearing Hizbullah would launch a Katyusha attack. It was only around noon that people were officially allowed out in Kiryat Shmona to stock up on supplies.

Three of those killed in Lebanon Sunday were buried yesterday. Gerstein's funeral is scheduled for today at 3 p.m. at Kibbutz Reshafim.

Brig.-Gen. Eli Amitai took over the liaison unit and started to make efforts to return it to routine operations. Amitai returned to his former headquarters in Marjayoun and gathered all the senior commanders for a pep talk.

"The string of incidents in Lebanon doesn't allow anyone to take a time-out. We don't have that kind of luxury to sit and wait. We have to continue to work," a senior officer in the unit told Itim.

Amitai had served as commander of the unit for 18 months before turning it over to Gerstein.

"Amitai only needs to get updated and he can start work as if he never left," said the officer.

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NEWS
in brief

Defendants in Gaza trial deny link to Hamas

Military judges in Gaza City heard eyewitness testimony yesterday in the case of three alleged members of Hamas's military wing charged with killing Imad Judeh, a Preventive Security Agent, last month in Rafah. The three, Raed Attar, Mohammed Abu Shamaleh, and Osama Abu Taher, allegedly killed Judeh when they opened fire at Preventive Security agents trying to arrest them, and then ran over and killed a six-year-old girl. Media access to the trial was limited, but according to a Palestinian source briefed on the proceedings, the three defendants denied any link to Hamas. Hamas leaders have also denied that the three are members of the organization. The trial is scheduled to resume tomorrow. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Hamas prisoners end hunger strike

Forty-four Hamas supporters imprisoned in the Palestinian Authority's Juneid Prison in Nablus called off a 36-day hunger strike late Sunday, according to Ismail Abu Shanab, a Hamas leader.

Abu Shanab said the prisoners had reached an "oral agreement" with the PA that 35 of them would be released in the coming weeks. But he voiced skepticism whether this would actually take place. "We've had many promises before and nothing happened," Abu Shanab said. The prisoners have been detained for more than a year without being charged, he said. *Ben Lynfield*

Buses to offer cheaper fares

The Transportation Ministry announced yesterday it has arranged for the sale of discount tickets on inter-urban buses, so as to encourage the use of public transport. According to the arrangement, travelers can buy a six-trip ticket for the price of five rides on all bus lines on which a ticket costs up to NIS 17.30, including the 405 and 480 between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and the 400 between Jerusalem and Bnei Brak.

Youth and senior citizens will be able to buy the ticket for half-price. National Insurance beneficiaries will be able to buy the tickets at a discount of one third. On the 400 route, there will also be two-ride tickets for a 20 percent discount, with additional discounts for youth, seniors and National Insurance beneficiaries. *Haim Shapiro*

Youth gets 6 months in apartment trashing

A Jerusalem District Court judge yesterday sentenced a haredi minor to six months in jail, 12 months suspended, and a year under the supervision of a probation officer for his role in the ransacking of an apartment occupied by Christian women in Jerusalem's Mea She'arim neighborhood. The incident occurred last November. The 17-year-old youth, whose name was not disclosed, took books seized at the apartment and brought them to his father. The books later disappeared. Last week, 28-year-old Yehoshua Weiss was sentenced to eight months in prison and 4 months suspended for his role in the same incident. *Dan Izenberg*

Dangerous toys confiscated

Some 16,000 dangerous toys were confiscated by Jerusalem police and Ministry of Industry and Trade workers over the last few days, police spokesman Shmuel Ben Ruby said yesterday. They confiscated toys from merchants and store owners. In one incident, they stopped a car and found thousands of exploding toys. In a raid in east Jerusalem by drug investigators, thousands of exploding toys were discovered. The dangerous toys were confiscated and the merchants will stand trial. *Amy Klein*

PA rebuffs PM on idea of partially implementing Wye

By BEN LYNFIELD

The Palestinian Authority yesterday rejected Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's invitation to hold talks on partial implementation of the Wye accord, saying it would accept nothing less than further Israeli troop redeployments as specified in the pact.

"The basis for us, as Palestinians, as [PA chairman Yasser] Arafat has said, is land and withdrawal from the land," Saeb Erekat, the top PA negotiator, said in an interview with the Voice of Palestine.

"Netanyahu is most welcome if he wants to implement the agreements including the redeployments, but if he wants to use us as an electoral card, then we will not be a party to that," Erekat said.

Erekat added that in addition to two as yet unimplemented troop pullouts specified in the Wye Memorandum, the Palestinian side expects the government to "free political prisoners, give permission for the Gaza port, and activate safe passages" for travel between the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

While the Palestinians charge that Israel froze the agreement in February in order to avoid making further territorial concessions, the government's position is that PA non-compliance with the agreement is what stopped the redeployment process.

Among the Israeli allegations are that the PA is not confiscating illegal weapons, not cracking down on Islamic Jihad and Hamas, and not curbing anti-Israel incitement.

Last week, Martin Indyk, the US Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs credited the PA with stepping up efforts to combat the "terrorist infrastructure" in its areas.

But he said it needs to improve its performance in confiscating illegal weapons and stopping incitement.

He also said Israel has failed to inaugurate safe passage routes, open the Gaza port, and conclude economic negotiations.

Netanyahu, during a visit to Amman Sunday for talks with King Abdullah II, offered what he termed a "realistic and fair" suggestion to break the impasse: "Have the Palestinians complete all or part of the Wye accords, and we will either, in the case of full compliance, do our part, which is to hand over the additional 5 percent [of West Bank land] or we can find other areas of cooperating and implementation short of complete implementation."

David Bar-Illan, director of communications for the prime minister, said that what the Palestinians would receive in exchange for complying to Israel's satisfaction on individual issues could be worked out in negotiations.

But Erekat said the entire proposal is an election ploy. "Mr. Netanyahu proposed what he proposed in Amman in order to say to the Israeli center, 'I am for peace and desire implementation', but the Palestinian side refuses [to accept this]," Erekat said.



In memoriam

Members of the Dor Shalem movement place flowers and a sign reading "Yitzhak Rabin, 1922-1995, Born for Peace" on the hulks of armored cars on the road to Jerusalem yesterday, in honor of Rabin's birthday. The armored cars were part of convoys sent to break the siege of Jerusalem during the War of Independence, in which Rabin took part as a Palmah officer. (Isaac Harari)

Conservatives advance conversion petition to High Court

By DAN IZENBERG

The Conservative movement will go ahead with a petition to the High Court of Justice calling for state recognition of its right to convert, even though one of two adopted children involved in its petition underwent Orthodox conversion last week, Conservative movement leader Ehud Bendel said yesterday.

The mother of the boy said her son was converted at the special conversion court headed by Rabbi Haim Druckman.

The court was established by the Neeman Committee to facilitate the conversion of adopted children, because regular rabbinical courts were making conversions difficult by insisting that the parents lead an Orthodox life and send their children to Orthodox schools.

Of the 12 families included in the original petition, 11 have now dropped out.

However, the remaining family will not back down, said Bendel. "Anyone who thinks last week's conversion gets rid of the problem is kidding himself," said Bendel.

"The conversion only proves that what really drives the Chief Rabbinate is not the safeguarding of religious law but the preservation of its monopoly," Bendel said.

"For six years they did not want to convert the boy, saying the mother was not observant enough. Now, they've converted him without any conditions or demands."

Hedva Almog, the chairwoman of Na'amat, which helped the mother cope with the conversion difficulties and eventually introduced her to the Conservative movement, said: "There is no doubt that all of the families who petitioned the High Court of Justice and later dropped out, managed to have their children converted by the Rabbinate only because of the threat of the High Court hanging over it."

Last week, after seven postponements, a panel of five High Court judges began hearing the petition, submitted by the Conservative movement and Na'amat.

During the hearing, Supreme Court President Aharon Barak asked the sides to consider a compromise whereby the children's nationality would be listed as Jewish, while the religious classification in the population register, would be left blank.

The court has not set a date for the next hearing.

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Hollander recommends reprimand of Bushinsky for political statements

By LIAT COLLINS

Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander has reportedly recommended that Aviv Bushinsky, the prime minister's spokesman, be reprimanded for making statements of a political nature despite his position as a senior civil servant.

Hollander recommended the reprimand be recorded in Bushinsky's personal file.

However, Hollander did not release any of the alleged statements or find evidence that he arranged entrance for an audience when the prime minister appeared on a television talk show.

Bushinsky's assistant, Ophir Akunis, did however receive a warning for dealing with the invitations to the "Politika" talk show. Several opposition MKs filed complaints against Bushinsky after the show descended into a confrontation between Likud and Labor supporters in which Labor leader Ehud Barak was severely heckled.

Bushinsky said in response that he was surprised that the Commissioner's Office leaked the recommendations and stressed that they were only recommendations and that the legal adviser in the Prime Minister's Office had asked that they be clarified.

In a letter sent by the legal advisor, Shimon Stein, to the Civil Service Commissioner's Office, Stein said that in order for the recommendations to be carried out, it is necessary to point out what disciplinary infringement is involved.

Stein noted that Yigal Hayut, who is in charge of discipline in the civil service, had noted that "in the circumstances in which they were made," he does not consider Bushinsky's statements to be participation in public electioneering.

Stein also said it was not clear what infraction Akunis is guilty of because forwarding the lists of participants at a media event attended by the prime minister falls into the job description of the spokesman and his aides.

Eda Haredit, NCC issue appeal to consult doctors

By JUDY SIEGEL

In an unusual cooperative effort between the anti-Zionist Eda Haredit and the National Council for the Child (NCC), a joint appeal was issued yesterday calling on Eda followers to consult with physicians about sick children rather than leaving their care to complementary medicine treatments.

The statement was issued by Rabbi Yehoshua Scheinberger, chairman of Rafa (Medicine According to Halacha), and Dr. Yitzhak Kadman, director of the NCC.

The cooperation was triggered by the recent death of a seven-year-old Safed boy – the son of a haredi divorcee who immigrated a few years ago from the US.

Initially, police suspected she had beaten or burned the child, but after investigation, they realized the lesions were pressure sores from lying in bed – sick from pneumonia – for a long period.

The mother insisted that her homeopathic treatments could save her son, but he died for want of antibiotics.

The woman had claimed that according to Jewish law, patients require no doctors but only religious faith.

However, Scheinberger and Kadman said that Halacha not only permits seeking professional medical care, but also mandates it.

"Parents are bound legally, morally, and religiously to protect their children's lives and health," they said.

The two added that there is no reason to oppose the use of complementary medicine techniques, but they "must not come instead of conventional medicine, but only to supplement accepted and authoritative medical care."

They added that "asking a rabbi, saying prayers, and making requests [to God] are important, but observant Jews still must consult physicians."

All rabbinical arbiters and sages, they concluded, state that Halacha requires sick people to turn to authorized practitioners of conventional medicine.

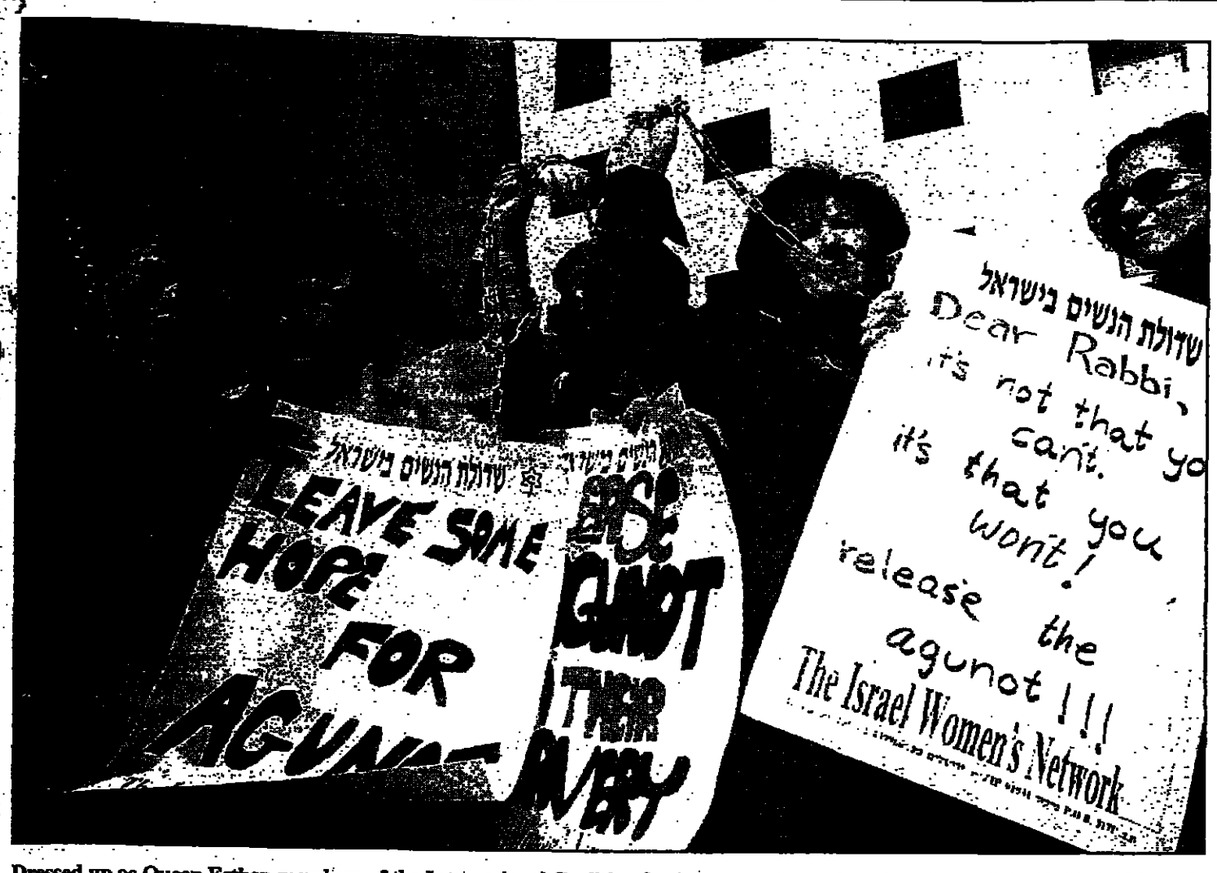
Scheinberger said that he and Kadman expect to join forces on other issues regarding the health and safety of haredi adults and children.

He also said that his organization, which followers consult regarding medical treatment and disease prevention, has posted notices warning parents against allowing their children to smoke on Purim.

This is a widespread practice in the haredi community, he said, and many boys get "hooked" on tobacco from their Purim introduction to cigarettes.

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Dressed up as Queen Esther, members of the International Coalition for Agunot protest outside the offices of the Chief Rabbinate in Jerusalem yesterday. (Ariel Jerozolimski / The Jerusalem Post)

Women demand rabbinate help agunot

By AMY KLEIN

Wearing Queen Esther crowns and chains, dozens of women demonstrated yesterday in front of the Chief Rabbinate in Jerusalem to urge rabbis to help what they called the continuing plight of women who could not obtain a divorce from their husbands.

"The rabbis have no courage, they have no halachic heart," said Sharon Shenhav, the director of the International Jewish Women's Human Rights Watch, which documents, researches, and publicizes the circumstances of agunot.

"We stood here five-and-a-half years ago and presented our recommendations to the rabbinate. Just last week they said they accepted the idea in principle, but that's the same thing they said back then," said Shenhav.

The five principles that the *International Coalition for Agunot* (ICAR) recommends including the institution of pre-nuptial agreements as part of the *ketuba* (marriage agreement); imposing a *get* (rabbinical divorce) on recalcitrant husbands; marriage annulments; an automatic *get after 30 days*, and a provisional divorce, which Jewish soldiers had in the past deposited with rabbinic courts, so that their wives would not remain agunot if they went missing in action.

Some 60 women – and a handful of men – participated in the demonstration, including Meretz MK Naomi Chazan, Jerusalem city councilwoman Anat Hoffman, and Hadassah International president *Marlene Post*.

"I will keep bothering them – every week, not every month," said Bella Freund, number 3 in the new Women's Party, which lists religious discrimination as one of its 11 campaign platforms, primarily aimed at *financial equality for women*.

"Queen Esther fasted to help the situation, and we have to work with the [religious court] judges to remind them of the plight of women," she said.

"I have gone through so much that I am beyond suffering, beyond pain," said a 34-year-old Orthodox woman who asked to remain anonymous lest her husband discover her whereabouts. A battered wife since *her marriage in 1993, she has been* trying to obtain a divorce for more than four years.

"I would never have believed that Jewish law would allow this to happen, as if I didn't matter, as if I weren't a human being," she said, *admitting that she has considered* becoming less religious because of the ordeal. "If the judges would feel for a millisecond the suffering we go through, they would behave differently."

Ministry blocking funds for non-profit organizations

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Some 300 non-profit organizations, including the Masorti (Conservative) Movement, Na'amat, Tolerance, and Melitz, are currently unable to receive Absorption Ministry funding because the Interior Ministry has refused to grant them approval, citing "administrative problems" in these groups.

However, representatives of some of the organizations claimed yesterday that they never received any notice of a problem, while others insisted that the Interior Ministry never got back to them when they tried to clear up what the problem was.

According to Amiram Bogot, registrar of non-profit organizations in the Interior Ministry, the law requires that these groups file certain documents with the ministry, including financial reports and proof that members of their boards of directors are not paid. In addition, non-profit organizations are required to pay an annual fee of NIS 1,100.

Bogot said the organizations in question had failed to comply *with one or more of these* requests. "We even sent them letters explaining what was wrong or what they had failed to do," Bogot said. "Some of them fixed what was wrong and some did not."

However, *Avraham Infeld* president of the Melitz Centers for Jewish/Zionist Education, said he knows nothing about the problem, although his organization had already suffered from delays caused by the earlier *investigation by Attorney*-General Elyakim Rubinstein's office into possible double funding of non-profit organizations.

A spokesman for the Masorti Movement also expressed surprise at the report, saying the organization's legal department is not aware of having received any notice from the Interior Ministry indicating any problem. A Na'amat spokeswoman also knew of no such notice.

Ilana Singer of Tolerance, a non-partisan movement against violence, wrote Absorption Ministry officials complaining that although a representative of the group dropped off all the necessary documents on February 10, her group was not included on the approved list.

She claimed that repeated attempts to speak to officials from the registrar's office were turned down, with a clerk saying the matter "is being taken care of."

Among those organizations on the Interior Ministry list of those "missing documents" are: Machon Lev; Elem; Gesher; the Israel Forum; several Habad groups; Meital; and the Gesher theater.

"Letters were sent out to all the organizations based on the addresses we have," Bogot insisted, adding that the organizations still have time to address *the problem. He also noted that* the Interior Ministry is still checking the operations of the organizations which supplied all the necessary documents, to check on what is done with the money received. "So even those *who presented all the documents* may not get funding in the end," he said.

Asked what would happen to organizations still waiting for the funding, Bogot said: "It's a very good thing that the government *does not fund organizations* which are not run according to the law. Either one of two things will happen: The organizations will be run legally and be funded, or they will continue to not be run in strict accordance with the law, and the government will not fund them."

Absorption Ministry officials responded angrily to the report, saying it "takes a very grave view of the fact that the registrar of non-profit organizations in the Interior Ministry has seen fit to examine the organizations at such a late stage, when they should have received funding in January." The spokesman

The ministry spokesman also complained about the overall slow pace of the inspection, and said the ministry had asked for an extension from the registrar to prevent a situation in which existing organizations which do *significant work on behalf of* immigrants would not even come up for consideration.

The spokesman explained that a solution has been worked out with Rubinstein regarding the previous funding problem, *according to which organizations* dealing in formal education will be funded by the Education Ministry, and those dealing in informal education by the Absorption Ministry. The Treasury must still approve this *formula*.

As for the current problem, the spokesman said in a statement: "We will not be a party to a situation in which bureaucratic foot-dragging hurts organizations and thereby impacts on *immigrants who receive their* services. We believe a deliberate campaign has been launched to destroy the voluntary organizations' activities in Israel. When it comes to absorption, we will not be a party to it, and *just like we reached an agreement* with the attorney-general, the Interior Ministry will have to adapt itself to the reality in which organizations do such important work."

Ramat Hovav waste dump sued

By LIAT COLLINS

The Ramat Hovav hazardous waste dump is the object of a class action suit filed in Beersheba District Court against Environmental Services Ltd. which runs the site. The reason: being a deadly danger to public health.

The Environment Ministry, Minister Rafael Eitan and the Ramat Hovav Industrial Site Local Council were also named. It was signed by the Ramat Negev Regional Council and its head, Shmuel Rifman, who is running for Knesset on the Negev Party list; The Association of Southern Scientists; and several individuals.

In the petition, the plaintiffs write that they are concerned the dangers at the Negev site "are some of the greatest to human lives and the public's health in peacetime and are not granted sufficient attention by the defendants." They said immediate court intervention is required to help remove the threats.

They demanded that the court order the site closed until the problems have been fixed; to stop transport of additional hazardous materials to the site in the meantime; and order the appointment of a professional team to run the site and ensure it operates in according with business licensing laws.

The plaintiffs are represented by lawyer and former MK Moshe Shahal who has taken up the case free of charge.

One of the main considerations against closing the site appears to be the fact that there is no alternative hazardous waste dump in the country and there is a danger that large amounts of toxic waste could accumulate, untreated, at source or be illegally dumped elsewhere.

A spokesman for the Ramat Hovav Industrial Site Local Council said council head David Milgrom had used his authority to place a closure order *on the toxic waste dump* but had rescinded it after receiving a detailed work plan which would amend the deficiencies in accordance with the business licensing laws, the council's demands and those of the Environment Ministry which approved the plan including its funding.

The new director of Environmental Services Ltd., Eitan Zilbiger, has promised to present the council with a weekly report to ensure the work plan is carried out according to schedule.

40% of non-profit groups religious, haredi

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

More than 40 percent of all non-profit organizations are either religious or haredi, according to a study by Prof. Benny Gidron of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev's Israel Center for Third Sector Studies.

According to Gidron's study, the "third sector" – the first two being the business and public sectors – spent NIS 33 billion, or 13% of the gross domestic product, *in 1995*.

"These figures show Israel's third sector to be, relatively, one of the largest in the world," Gidron said. Israel ranks fourth after Holland, Ireland, and Belgium, but ahead of the US and Great Britain, according to a Hopkins Project study done with 35 other countries, administered by Johns Hopkins University in the US.

Some 27,000 non-profit organizations were registered in Israel at the end of 1998, 23% related to religion, 18% education, 13% culture and leisure, and 12% involved in welfare activities.

A conference on the third sector will be sponsored by Gidron's center next week at the Dead Sea Hyatt Hotel.

Itim contributed to this report.

Polish Catholic indicted for instigating Auschwitz cross dispute

WARSAW (AP) – Prosecutors in southern Poland filed an indictment yesterday against a conservative Catholic activist who rallied others to erect crosses just outside the former Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

The indictment filed in the Oswiecim local court charges Kazimierz Switon with inciting hate against Jews and with insulting Jews and Germans. If convicted, the charges carry a maximum sentence of three years.

Reached on his mobile phone at the site where dozens of crosses have been erected, Switon called the charges "absurd." "I only said the truth and will prove it in the court," he said.

Prosecutors cited leaflets distributed by Switon in his campaign to prevent authorities from removing an 8-meter papal cross that has stood at the site in commemoration of Polish resisters executed there by the Nazis.

The leaflets include a statement issued on June 28 that urged residents to erect crosses at the site, saying "the time has come for us, Poles, to wage merciless war on Jewish-communist-masonry, the biggest enemies of the Polish state."

The leaflets described Israel and Germany as "satanic-pagan forces aiming at extermination of the Polish nation," according to PAP news agency.

Prosecutors have begun investigating the statements on the leaflets in October after receiving complaints from residents.

Switon launched his campaign last summer to prevent removal of the large wooden cross, used *in a 1988* papal Mass, inspiring other conservative Catholics to erect dozens of smaller crosses in protest.

Jews have long objected to the presence of the larger cross, which is visible inside the camp, as an insult to the memory of Jews killed at Auschwitz. Jewish organizations around the world renewed their outrage after the smaller crosses began appearing, and the Israeli government urged Poland to solve the dispute.

Efforts at a solution were set back when a regional court in Oswiecim rejected a request by the Polish government to evict Switon and his followers, who have been camping at the site, and to appoint a government trustee with authority over the area.

The government has appealed. Switon said he would continue *to live in a tent at the site until* Pope Paul John II comments on the crosses.



Neuberger testifies about Sara

Sara Netanyahu leaves Ramat Gan Family Court yesterday, after her ex-husband Doron Neuberger testified in the case she filed to prevent him from publicizing tape recordings of her and letters she wrote to him during their marriage. The hearing, which is to continue on Thursday, was held behind closed doors. (Text: Heidi J. Gleit; photo Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

Husband gets Pessah, wife gets Purim in NY custody battle

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – A bitter two-year custody battle between New York billionaire Ronald Perelman and his former wife Patricia Duff over their daughter became a "holy war" last week in Manhattan Supreme Court when he accused her of "sacrilege" for baking cookies on Pessah, and she contended that he was "micromanaging" her Judaism.

"This mother has lied continually about leading a Jewish way of life," Perelman's attorney told Justice Eileen Bransten in a battle over Caleigh Perelman, who is 4.

Perelman, the CEO of Revlon, said Duff baked leavened cookies and had an Easter-egg hunt while Caleigh was with her last Pessah. He also said Duff, a fund-raiser for the Democratic Party, and her beau, New Jersey Democratic Sen. Robert Torricelli, spent Yom Kippur last year at a baseball playoff game.

Duff's lawyer fumed: "This is the most offensive micromanagement of Judaism I've ever seen... No one should be allowed to sit in judgment to determine how Jewish you are," according to press accounts.

Duff, once Episcopalian, converted to Judaism before marrying Perelman in 1995. They agreed Duff would raise Caleigh as a Jew.

Earlier this month, Perelman asked the court to order that Caleigh spend the holidays with him, because Duff could not be trusted to observe Jewish tradition.

Duff reportedly said in a sworn affidavit that she attended a private seder in 1997 at the home of Rabbi Arthur Schneier of Manhattan's Park East Synagogue. However, a letter from Schneier apparently said congregational seders were held in the synagogue, not his home.

Bransten on Friday ordered Duff to send Caleigh to Perelman for Pessah, but Duff has her for Purim.

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Absinthe, immortalized in Degas' painting, is now being marketed to the upscale, artsy crowd of London's Soho district.

Absinthe makes the heart grow fonder

Once banned, the drink is now making a comeback

By MARJORIE MILLER

Degas immortalized it in his bleary-eyed painting, "Absinthe". And Van Gogh nursed a disturbed mind on the aquamarine liquor, which might have encouraged him to amputate his ear.

The "green fairy" to some, the devil's potion to others, absinthe was the drink of choice for a generation of bohemian artists and writers in "fin-de-siecle" Paris until it was banned by the French government in 1915.

Now absinthe is back, this time in end-of-millennium London.

Four entrepreneurs who call themselves Green Bohemia began importing Hill's Absinth from the Czech Republic two months ago, peddling it primarily to the upscale, artsy crowd of London's Soho district but also offering the elixir for sale only on the Internet.

"A lot of people have gone for it," said Tom Hodgkinson, one of those responsible for the absinthe revival after its absence for decades.

"It is literary and hedonistic at the same time. It appeals to serious drinkers, thinkers and artists."

Oscar Wilde, living in France after his fall from grace in England, was among those who succumbed to its charms before his early death in 1900.

"Absinthe has a wonderful color, green. A glass of absinthe is as poetical as anything in the world," he wrote. "What difference is there between a glass of absinthe and a sunset?" The side effects, for one.

ABSINTHE is about 70 percent alcohol and packs twice the wallop of a shot of vodka. It is made from the wormwood plant, which is reputed to have a hallucinogenic effect, and flavored with a blend of anise, angelica root and other aromatics.

"I haven't heard of anyone hallucinating, but I have seen a few people walk into mirrors," said Paul Hutchison, head bartender at London's The Groucho Club. "Like with any alcohol, people quite often lose part of the evening." Absinthe was first produced for sale in 1797 by Henri-Louis Pernod, who reportedly bought the recipe from a compatriot living in Switzerland. For more than a century, absinthe flowed in French cafes and cabarets like "the green waters of summer," as the poet Baudelaire described it.

Bewitching color aside, artists in 19th-century Paris drank absinthe because they could afford it.

Absinthe offered a cheap, ethereal drink until it was outlawed in what Hodgkinson called "a moral panic about its effects on the working classes."

Absinthe did not catch on to the same degree and was never banned in Britain, as it was in the United States and many other nations.

But today, the British working classes are not at great risk, with Hill's Absinth selling for $68 a bottle.

The nonprofit Alcohol Concern, which is what it says, does not foresee an absinthe epidemic but warns against abuse.

"This is an extremely powerful drink and people will want to be very wary about using it," said Lee Lixenberg, a spokesman for the Alcohol Concern.

"Bearing in mind that we don't imagine hoards queuing up to buy this drink, what concerns us most is it is available on the Internet."

Green Bohemia, newcomers to the booze business, wanted to start small and trendy, taking their cues from the marketing success of Absolut Vodka.

Only one of the four partners had any experience with imports. But the quartet had friends in the right places – bars such as the private The Groucho Club, where absinthe was introduced into the media, publishing and theater crowd.

They presented absinthe as "the spirit of freedom," a kind of rebellion against the clean-cut "New Labor" values of Britain's ruling party.

"We despise the bungee-jumping men's health culture that prevails, the world of the Pepsi Max generation, who consider that any activity (no matter how mindless) is better than sitting around doing nothing," Hodgkinson wrote in the *Daily Telegraph* at the time.

"Absinthe, we think, encourages conversation, independent thought and creativity." The quartet's approach worked. Absinthe attracted media coverage and quick converts, including a film critic who frequents The Groucho Club.

"What do I think of it? I don't think too much because I don't remember. I love it," he said laughing.

Perhaps what he meant was – absinthe makes the heart grow fonder. (Los Angeles Times)

Miranda warnings under increasing fire

By LYLE DENNISTON

Miranda warnings" seem to have become a permanent fixture in America not only in daily police life but also in television and movie dramas. But that is not the way Antonin Scalia and Paul Cassell would have it, and they just might get their way.

For years, Scalia, a Supreme Court justice, and Cassell, a University of Utah law professor and a onetime law clerk to Scalia on a lower court, have worked – not in tandem, but in common purpose – to challenge the Mirahda decision and its famous mandate to police.

The warnings, required before police may question a suspect they hold, are designed to prevent forced confessions. The words are familiar: "You have a right to remain silent." "You have a right to an attorney." "Anything you say can and will be used against you." The 1966 decision in Miranda vs. Arizona has so much history behind it that the warnings sometimes seem invulnerable to attacks from critics such as Scalia and Cassell. But that perception is based in the main on two supposed truisms.

The first is that no one is serious anymore about changing the ruling, which withstood an assault by Cassell when he was a top-level Justice Department official in the Reagan administration. The second is that seven consecutive presidential administrations helped make it permanent by willingly accepting it.

Both are simply untrue. In reality, Miranda is under siege again, and may be more vulnerable to change than at any time in its 33-year history.

If Miranda warnings are changed or cast aside, Miranda's supporters are convinced, police will return to trickery in interrogation, and perhaps to strong-arm tactics. The decision's critics maintain that the guilty will continue to get off on technicalities if the warnings are not relaxed.

No one can predict whether a majority of five Supreme Court justices stands ready to overrule Miranda, although in recent years the court has significantly narrowed the decision's scope. And the day might be coming when the court would cut back so sharply on the warnings mandate that police would no longer issue the warnings.

The court might soon have to rethink Miranda, to decide directly whether it is rooted in the Constitution – and thus can be undone only by overruling it or by amending the Constitution.

If the court decides that Miranda has no constitutional basis, federal agents would be bound by what's known as "Section 3501," a 1968 federal law that is far more permissive about police interrogation practices. State and local police no longer would be bound by Miranda. Freed of the legal risk of losing cases because of Miranda violations, officers might give up the procedure. From Miranda's beginning in 1966, it has applied to police at all levels.

THIS MONTH, the 4th US Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia, began setting the stage for an ultimate test of the Supreme Court's willingness to stand by Miranda. The appeals court concluded that Miranda has been displaced by Section 3501.

Scalia and Cassell can take some credit for this new and serious threat to Miranda. Scalia publicly has been advocating a confrontation over Miranda for seven years, and the Circuit Court relied heavily on his views; Cassell has been pursuing that confrontation nearly twice as long, and he argued the case in Richmond.

Cassell says he and Scalia never have talked directly about their views on Miranda, but they have denounced the decision in the same terms: They say it has led to the freeing of many suspects who were guilty of crimes, but who got off because of Miranda.

Section 3501 was passed as one of a series of bold efforts by Congress to counter the liberalism of the court when it was led by Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Congress decreed that if a suspect being held by police for a federal crime had confessed voluntarily, the confession could be used as evidence even if the police had given no Miranda warnings. What had to happen to set up a confrontation over the constitutionality of that section and over the fate of Miranda was a test case for the courts – one like the case unfolding in the federal appeals court in Richmond involving Charles Thomas Dickerson of Maryland, accused of a string of bank robberies.

The Dickerson case seems an ideal test: His Miranda rights were violated, but the confession he gave was found to be voluntary anyway.

If the Miranda decision were followed, his confession would be barred as evidence; Section 3501 would allow it. The appeals court said it must be allowed, because of Section 3501.

The Clinton administration is wedded firmly to Miranda, and hostile to Section 3501. Several lower-level prosecutors in the administration have used Section 3501 to try to get courts to accept voluntary confessions done without proper warnings, only to be overruled by superiors.

THIS MONTH, Attorney General Janet Reno made the administration position firmer still.

The Miranda decision, she told reporters, is based on the Constitution, and "this administration and other administrations preceding it, of both parties," have agreed that only the Supreme Court can change it.

In 1992, Cassell joined the law faculty at the University of Utah, pressing his legal crusade against Miranda and in favor of Section 3501. He began an alliance with the Washington Legal Foundation, a conservative legal advocacy group, that has led to a series of courtroom assaults on Miranda – including the successful challenge they have made in the appeals court in Richmond.

While Cassell remained an activist on the issue, Section 3501 was getting lost again in the Justice Department bureaucracy.

However, in 1992, Scalia took up the cause. It was the last year of the Bush administration, and John Roberts Jr., a deputy US solicitor general, was appearing before the Supreme Court in a criminal case involving a voluntary confession.

Scalia confronted Roberts: "I've been listening to Miranda cases... for seven terms now. Why has the United States never cited in any of these cases Section 3501? Is there some reason?... It's clearly very relevant to this case." Roberts said he did not know why, prompting Scalia to ask: "Is this sort of executive nullification of a congressional statute?" Roberts said he could not explain why the justices had never been asked to rule on it.

It was a refrain to which Scalia would return. After the Clinton administration came into office, not much more than a year passed before Scalia was pressing the issue anew.

In a military court martial case, Scalia said to a Justice Department lawyer: "The government just comes in time after time and doesn't take any position on raising 3501, continues to argue Miranda as though there's no statute explicitly addressing it... It seems to me the government ought to have a position on this." Justice Sandra Day O'Connor also expressed an interest in Section 3501 in that case.

Cassell had played a role in stirring their interest. He submitted a friend-of-court brief in the case for the Washington Legal Foundation. The brief argued fervently that the 1968 law trumped the Miranda decision.

The decision in that case came out in June 1994, but the court took no position on Section 3501 and its effect on Miranda.

O'Connor wrote the opinion, saying questions about that conflict were not before the court. However, Scalia wrote a separate opinion lambasting several administrations for passing over Section 3501.

The court should not continue to ignore Section 3501 and Miranda, he said.

Once again, Cassell and the Washington Legal Foundation have found the appeals court in Richmond most receptive.

When the Justice Department refused before that court to defend Section 3501 to save Dickerson's confession as evidence, the court invited the foundation, with Cassell as the lead lawyer, to do so, and they did, winning their most significant victory. (The Baltimore Sun)

Spending spree already under way for US presidential election in 2000

By CECI CONNOLLY

The 2000 US presidential race is developing into a mammoth spending spree, with Vice President Al Gore aiming to raise a record $55 million and two other candidates considering giving up federal money so they can spend unlimited sums.

Gore, who has been holding a series of private dinners with top fund-raisers, plans to exploit every available legal loophole to collect far more money than the basic spending limits allow. An intimidating war chest, his strategists assert, will scare off other Democrats and give him an early start on attacking the ultimate GOP nominee.

At the same time, advisers to two Republicans – Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Malcolm S. "Steve" Forbes – say they are weighing whether to opt out of the system that gives primary candidates partial federal funding. That would let them spend as much as they want in pursuit of the nomination.

"It's totally out of control," said Stan Huckaby, a Republican accountant who has advised numerous presidential campaigns.

The money chase is so overwhelming that former California governor Pete Wilson (R) and Sen. John F. Kerry, D-Mass., announced last week they would not run. On Thursday, the quest for cash quickens with three candidates – Gore, former vice president Dan Quayle and Democrat Bill Bradley – holding major fund-raising dinners.

"Everybody is pressing the envelope, spending a lot of time worrying about money," said Quayle campaign chairman Kyle McSlarrow.

TWENTY-FIVE years after Congress passed a law to restrain the flow of money into presidential campaigns –and two years after a campaign widely condemned for its financial abuses - the candidates are preparing to open the floodgates to an unprecedented amount of unregulated spending.

After investigations by Congress, the Justice Department and the Federal Election Commission into 1996 fund-raising practices fizzled – and campaign reform legislation failed last year – the strategists for 2000 have concluded that there is little risk in pushing the fund-raising boundaries to new extremes.

When the 1974 act was written, lawmakers thought they had devised a foolproof way to shift the emphasis from dialing for dollars back to discussing the issues. They offered candidates a tantalizing deal: live within strict overall and state-by-state spending rules in exchange for millions in taxpayer-provided "matching funds." Each party's nominee would also receive full public financing for the general election campaign.

But a combination of factors coalesced to frustrate those intentions. The cost of campaigning has skyrocketed while the maximum donation has remained at $1,000 for individuals – meaning candidates have to spend more time than ever courting donors.

The entrance of wealthy, self-financed candidates such as Forbes has other potential candidates worrying about how to compete against someone not constrained by spending limits. And a compressed primary calendar that will likely produce nominees by early March 2000 further increases the pressure on candidates to build up their bank accounts now.

"To be competitive, you have to have the money up front," said Howard Opinsky, a spokesman for Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

THE COMPETITION for dollars has become so intense that most candidates will spend half of 1999 trolling for cash, their strategists said.

McCain plans to attend 25 fund-raisers by the end of March, while former Reagan administration official Gary Bauer is busy mining a direct mail list of 90,000 supporters. House Budget Committee Chairman John R. Kasich, R-Ohio, made a pilgrimage to New York to woo mega fund-raiser Georgette Mosbacher, while Elizabeth Hanford Dole is contacting many friends in her husband's ready-made donor network.

Even as Bush prepares to announce the formation of his exploratory committee, a debate rages inside his inner circle about whether he should give up federal funding to attempt to match the wealthy Forbes dollar-for-dollar.

His spokeswoman, Karen Hughes, said only: "A decision has not been made yet." Another top Bush adviser outlined "significant advantages" to forgoing matching funds, but said a final decision would likely come a number of months into the campaign.

In the 1996 primaries, Forbes spent $32 million of his own money, dropping about $4 million in the Iowa caucuses alone, more than double the legal spending limit. His early advertising blitz set off a chain reaction that left the eventual GOP nominee, Bob Dole, with little money and plenty of scars.

"You need to be in a position to respond" to a Forbes attack, said the Bush adviser. Opting out of the federal system "puts you on more even ground with Forbes and his wallet." But the decision is not easy. By one Bush adviser's estimate, the governor would need to raise an additional $17 million if he chooses not to take matching funds. And he would still be limited to raising a maximum of $1,000 from individuals.

"You begin to ask yourself how many people you can find to give you $1,000 each," said one Republican strategist.

Indeed, while other candidates have considered not participating in the matching-fund system, none has taken that plunge without a large personal checkbook to finance his campaign.

"In the past, you heard Ronald Reagan's and Bill Clinton's folks make noise about not taking the matching funds," said Anthony Corrado, a campaign finance expert at Colby College. "But, when push came to shove, they all took the money." Whichever strategy Bush adopts, Ron Kaufman, a veteran GOP operative who served in the Bush White House, said much of the former president's financial network is poised to step into action for the son. Already, Bush has played host to more than 75 prominent contributors at the governor's mansion, and his aides boast that between the governor and his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush (R), the Bush team has a list of 122,000 possible donors.

Gore offers a case study in how to stay within the system of federal funding but stretch the legal limits to the extreme.

Over the years, politicians – with the approval of regulators at the FEC – have invented ways to raise money above the strict federal caps, estimated to be $33.5 million this year. They can collect more by designating some of it as intended for fund-raising costs or legal and accounting expenses. Thus, Gore's target is $21.4 million above the basic spending ceiling.

While the extra cash is supposed to be used for those "exempt" expenses and not on direct campaigning, past campaigns have found creative ways to use the money. For example, the former director of Gore's political action committee, Nick Baldick, is on the payroll of Gore 2000 as a fund-raiser, meaning that his salary can be paid from those extra "exempt" dollars even though he has no experience raising money.

Gore's advisers believe that raising $55 million serves a dual benefit, dissuading potential Democratic rivals from challenging him for the nomination and giving him a financial advantage heading into the general election.

The strategy is "shut-out politics," said Fred Wertheimer, president of Democracy 21, which promotes the tightening of campaign finance laws. "The goal is to shut out opponents." If Gore wins the nomination with minimal effort and can hoard most of his money, he will enjoy a huge strategic advantage over the GOP nominee, just as President Clinton did four years ago. In April 1996, the president's $19 million dwarfed Dole's $2.1 million bank account, allowing Clinton to dominate the airwaves for four months. If the Gore plan works, he, too, will have several million dollars squirreled away for the early summer campaign before the two major-party candidates receive millions in general election financing.

Building on the successful fund-raising model of 1995, Gore has left nothing to chance. Five weeks after opening his campaign, Gore's first solicitation was mailed to 850,000 people, said campaign manager Craig Smith.

The Gore team, like many others, relies on a network of "collectors" to round up donors. Anyone who collects $50,000 from other supporters joins the vice president's national finance board, a ceremonial group that entitles members to attend a handful of private get-togethers with Gore.

"Fund-raising for a presidential campaign is as much a grass-roots organizing effort as it is a finance effort," said Smith. "You can have somebody worth a billion dollars, but at the end of the day you can only write a check for $1,000."

(The Washington Post)

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Obasanjo faces vote-rigging claims after Nigeria election victory

ABUJA (Reuters) – Nigerian President-elect Olusegun Obasanjo yesterday faced a fresh challenge from his defeated rival Olu Falae, who refused to accept the result of weekend elections marred by reports of rigging.

Falae's allegations were strengthened by former US President Jimmy Carter's statement that irregularities had been so serious he would not be able to judge the outcome of the election.

"Constitutionally and legally and politically we will fight it every inch of the way," Falae told Reuters Television.

Falae received 11.1 million votes compared to 18.7 million for Obasanjo in the Saturday ballot to end a 15-year stretch of military rule in Africa's most populous nation.

Obasanjo, 61, is due to take office on May 29, when General Abdulsalami Abubakar has pledged to step down, less than a year after the sudden death of dictator Sani Abacha opened the door to Nigeria's latest attempt at democracy.

"The stage has been set for the enthronement of a genuine democratic order in Nigeria," said electoral commission chairman Ephraim Akpata, who proclaimed Obasanjo the winner despite Falae's bid to stop the result being announced.

Acknowledging some irregularities, Obasanjo said he believed his opponents would accept the result and "join hands with all of us because at this point in time that is what we need." Foreign acceptance of the election is vital for Nigeria, hoping finally to cast off its image as a pariah and needing outside funding to cushion the blow of a collapse in oil prices.

"There was a wide disparity between the number of voters observed at the polling stations and the final result that has been reported from several states," said Carter, who jointly led a high-powered American delegation.

"Regrettably, therefore it is not possible for us to make an accurate judgement about the outcome of the presidential election," he said in a message delivered after he left Abuja.

The US welcomed the election but said reports of cheating should be investigated. South Africa applauded Nigeria's return to democracy.

Reports of malpractices came from Falae's stronghold in the southwest as well as Obasanjo's powerbases in the north, southeast and Niger River delta.

Nigeria's past attempts to establish democracy have been characterized by massive poll-rigging, as more than 200 ethnic groups sought a place near the center. Soldiers used the confusion to keep power for all but 10 years since independence from Britain in 1960.

An attempt to restore democracy in 1993 only plunged Nigeria into deeper crisis when the army annulled elections that tycoon Moshood Abiola was about to win, leaving Abacha to seize power in the ensuing chaos.

Abiola died in detention one month after Abacha.

Like Abiola, both Falae, 60, and Obasanjo are ethnic Yorubas from southwestern Nigeria.

The election marks a shift of power to the largely Christian and Animist south from the Hausa-speaking Moslem north which has dominated political life in the country of 108 million people for decades.

Specific policies did not play an important part in campaigning, with both Obasanjo and Falae promising to revitalize Nigeria after corrupt and incompetent military rule which has left most Nigerians in poverty.

US airstrike hits Iraqi pipeline, halts oil flow to Turkey

By JASSIM MOHAMMED

MOSUL, Iraq (AP) – A new round of US airstrikes hit northern Iraq yesterday, two days after an American attack wrecked an Iraqi pumping station that sends oil through a pipeline to Turkey, officials said.

US F15-Es dropped more than 30 laser-guided missiles yesterday afternoon over the northern no-fly zone in response to several incidents of Iraqi radar locking on the aircraft, Capt. Michael Blass of US European Command in Germany said.

Missiles struck Iraqi communications sites, radar relay sites and anti-aircraft artillery sites. No damage was reported to the aircraft, Blass said. The incidents happened in the vicinity of Mosul, a city about 400 kmnorth of Baghdad.

Blass denied Iraqi reports that US planes hit or targeted an Iraqi oil pipeline running through to Turkey or one of its pumping stations.

The Iraqi government yesterday took journalists to the oil pumping station, which appeared to have been destroyed. One person was killed in the attack Sunday and two were wounded, Iraqi officials said.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Col. Richard Bridges said officials were investigating whether the facility may have served a dual purpose: a communications link in Iraq's air defense system as well as a link in pipeline operations.

In Turkey, an official at the oil terminal in the port of Ceyhan confirmed the flow of petroleum had stopped after the attack. UN officials in Baghdad also confirmed the interruption.

The pipeline, which runs from northern Iraq to Ceyhan, is the only functioning pipeline in Iraq and one of only two outlets for oil exports. The other is the Gulf terminal of Mina al-Bakr.

An Iraqi oil official, Ashour Kan'an, said about 75 percent of the station was destroyed and that repairs will cost $750,000. The station is 40 kmwest of Mosul.

"In a few days, we expect to resume operations using alternative parts," he told The Associated Press.

Officials have said 56 percent of Iraq's oil exports flow through the pipeline. The country is exporting 2.1 million barrels a day under the oil-for-food program, which provides an exemption to UN sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The program enables the Iraqi government to sell oil on condition that the revenue is spent on food, medicine and humanitarian goods for the country's 22 million people.

US and British planes, which patrol no-fly zones over northern and southern Iraq, have been striking Iraqi military sites on an almost daily basis since December.

The zones were set up after the 1991 Gulf War to protect Kurdish rebels in the north and Shiite Muslims insurgents in the south.



Two Iraqi pumping station employees clear debris yesterday from station 6 40 kms. west of Mosul in the Kurdish no-fly zone which was attacked by US planes. The attack killed one and severed the Iraqi-Turkish oil pipeline (AP)

Swissair to pay SFr 195,000 per crash victim

ZURICH (Reuters) – The parent firm of Swissair, whose aircraft crashed off Canada last year killing all 229 passengers, said yesterday it would pay 195,000 Swiss francs (NIS 546,435) to the relatives of each of the victims.

Almost six months after the McDonnell Douglas MD-11 plunged into the Atlantic Ocean on September 2, SAirGroup chief executive Philippe Bruggisser said that 25 families had taken the airline up on its offer so far.

"I have decided, against [the advice of] our lawyers and insurers, to pay all relatives SFr 195,000 per victim as immediate assistance," he told a news conference.

Bruggisser added that accepting the payment would not affect the relatives' rights in terms of receiving final, and possibly higher, compensation.

The total sum of compensation claims from lawsuits filed so far in connection with the crash stands at $5 billion, while the claims for punitive damages – applicable only in the US – hovered around $4.5 billion, he said.

Bruggisser said the move to grant compensation per victim in all cases brought procedures in Europe in line with the US. Previously, compensation in Europe had been granted per family.

Twenty-two lawsuits stemming from the crash have been filed to date, Bruggisser said.

"Twenty of them are against Boeing/McDonnell Douglas, 17 against Swissair, seven against [SAirGroup unit] SR Technics, and one against our cargo department," he said.

But Bruggisser said the company believes its insurance package is adequate to cover the claims.

"We are assuming that our insurance coverage is sufficient to cover all compensation claims by relatives of passengers, the state of Canada, and third parties in connection with the accident," he said.

The cause of the crash remains unknown, and Bruggisser said there are no new insights to report from the investigation by Canada's Transportation Safety Board.

"We are assuming that a final report cannot be expected from the investigations board before the second half of the year 2000," he said.

In a bid to determine the cause of the crash, officials are reconstructing the cockpit and first-class section of the fuselage, a task involving some 5,000 separate pieces, he said.

"But important cable fragments are still missing and the search continues for small pieces of debris on the ocean floor," Bruggisser said.

He said the investigations has not resulted in any revelations so far which committed the airline to take concrete operational or technical action in response.

But as a voluntary precaution, Swissair in October shut off a hi-tech entertainment system called IFEN after investigators found evidence of heat-damaged wires in part of the ceiling where wiring for the IFEN and many other systems are placed.

The plane crashed into the Atlantic about five miles off the hamlet of Peggy's Cove in Nova Scotia as it tried to make an emergency landing at Halifax International Airport. The plane was en route to Geneva from New York.

Just minutes before the crash, the flight crew reported smoke in the cockpit.

Clues from the wreckage have prompted US safety investigators to ask the Federal Aviation Administration to order checks of cockpit wiring in other MD-11s.

Clinton returning early from vacation

By KEVIN GALVIN

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) – President Bill Clinton yesterday cut short a Utah vacation to return to Washington and get home a day early from a ski outing with his wife and daughter.

White House spokesman Barry Toiv said there was no emergency or urgent reason for Clinton to return. "They just decided they would leave today."

Clinton arrived here on Saturday to join his wife Hillary and daughter Chelsea for a ski weekend. The first lady and her daughter skied on Sunday; the president is not a skier. He tried it once 15 years ago in Sun Valley, Idaho, where he took repeated tumbles and finished the day with torn ligaments in his left knee.

Chelsea, who turned 19 on Saturday, was to have returned to Stanford University yesterday; the president and his wife were to have remained until today.

Pressed on why the Clintons were leaving, Toiv said, "They have a full schedule the rest of the week" and decided to "get home a day early."

Clinton told reporters en route to Park City from a fund-raising visit to Los Angeles that he was looking forward to a long weekend of reading, with no bigger plans than perhaps a trip into town for coffee.

The Clintons had a private dinner and a birthday cake Saturday night for Chelsea as she turned 19. It was the second straight year they have celebrated her birthday here.

The first lady and Chelsea were spotted on the slopes Sunday by photographers and cameramen. Mrs. Clinton was overheard expressing irritation to Secret Service agents about someone who had skied too close to her.

As they did last year, the Clintons stayed at the home of Hollywood producer Jeffrey Katzenberg, who lent them his estate in the Deer Valley Resort. Katzenberg has several intermediate ski runs just off his backyard.

Toiv said Clinton got a national security report every day except Sunday, but that a national security official was on standby if needed to brief him.

Last year, the president strolled Park City's Main Street, shaking hands and visiting the historic jail.

Katzenberg, co-partner with Steven Spielberg and David Geffen in DreamWorks SKG, is a big campaign donor to Clinton and other Democrats. The former Walt Disney Co. studio chief is a frequent guest at the White House and Clinton has stayed at his Malibu, California, home.

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WORLD
in brief

French, Italian firms sign $540m. deal with Iran

TEHERAN (AP) – Elf Aquitaine of France and Agip of Italy yesterday signed a $540 million energy deal with Iran to boost oil production despite US sanctions.

The deal with the state-run National Iranian Oil Co. for the Dorood oil and gas field is expected to increase Iran's output capacity, the European consortium said in a statement.

Iran's now produces nearly 4 million barrels of oil a day. The Dorood deal is expected to boost that amount by more than 100,000 barrels daily.

The US has strongly discouraged such investment in a nation it describes as a sponsor of terrorism. Congress has passed the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act, threatening to punish companies investing more than $20 million in Iran or $40 million in Libya.

Argentina's Menem says this term is his last

BUENOS AIRES (Reuters) – Argentina's President Carlos Menem said yesterday he would not serve as president again, apparently ending frenzied speculation he would seek a third term at the end of 1999.

"This is my last term," Menem told reporters after formally opening Congress. "I am not going to stay on."

Argentine presidents are prohibited from serving three consecutive terms. Menem was elected in 1989 and reelected in 1995, but he has been fighting behind the scenes to alter the constitution for another presidential bid.

But Menem said the constitution would not be modified during his last months in office, saying that "not everyone is in favor."

OAU calls For Ethiopia-Eritrea cease-fire

ADDIS ABABA (Reuters) – The Organization of African Unity called yesterday for a cease-fire in the border war between Ethiopia and Eritrea after Ethiopia claimed a decisive military victory. The appeal came after Ethiopian forces drove Eritrean troops out of the contested border region of Badme in a ground offensive backed by artillery and fighter planes.

The two East African neighbors in the Horn of Africa have been contesting a largely uninhabited, rocky 390 sq km patch of land in their 1,000 kms border that has never been totally demarcated.

Eritrea had long rejected an OAU proposal to end the conflict but, in a diplomatic climbdown to match its military retreat, it said at the weekend it would comply with the plan. Ethiopia accepted the OAU proposal months ago.

KLA returns corpse as mediators visit Kosovo

PRISTINA, Serbia (Reuters) – Ethnic Albanian guerrillas in Kosovo handed over the body of one of two missing Serbs yesterday, adding to tension just as international mediators arrived to try to keep the peace process alive.

"The two were handed over. One is a body, the other is alive," a spokesman for the international verifiers overseeing a cease-fire in Kosovo said by telephone. As he spoke, US and European mediators Chris Hill and Wolfgang Petritsch arrived in Kosovo to meet ethnic Albanian leaders who face a split with hardline separatists over their support for an international autonomy plan for Kosovo.

The run-up to a new round of peace talks on March 15 has been marked by an upsurge in violence which has killed more than a dozen people.

Police outraged over 'New Yorker' cover

NEW YORK (AP) – The police union is up in arms over the current cover of *The New Yorker* magazine, which shows a uniformed police officer at a carnival shooting gallery shooting at human-shaped targets. The cartoon, drawn by Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Art Spiegelman, includes a red sign on the front of the shooting booth that says: "41 shots 10 cents." The cover alludes to the February 4 killing of Amadou Diallo. The unarmed immigrant was shot at 41 times by four officers in the vestibule of his apartment building. A grand jury is still investigating the case. None of the officers have been charged and all four are still working on restricted duty.

"I found (the cover art) to be grossly offensive to the police in the city," said Jim Savage, acting president of the police union, the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association. The artist said he didn't draw the cover to upset anyone.

The March 8 issue of the magazine went on sale yesterday.

Report: LA smog exceeds legal limits

WASHINGTON (AP) – Residents of Los Angeles may be exposed to levels of hazardous air pollutants that are hundreds of times higher than the levels called for in the Clean Air Act, according to a report released yesterday.

The primary sources of the three pollutants examined in the report – 1,3-butadiene, formaldehyde, and benzene – were cars, trucks, and off-road vehicles.

Officials have been successful in reducing levels of toxic pollution in the area since the passage of the 1990 Clean Air Act, Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said.

"What the report shows is that despite this progress, we still have a long way to go," he added.

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Test of leadership

The difficult and painful images of talented young men whose lives were cut short in their 20s and 30s being laid to rest – especially when they come in as rapid a succession as they have recently – only make the silence and paralysis of thought in the nation's leadership all the more noticeable. Given that a general election is coming up in less than three months and that a wide-ranging public debate over how to find an end to the grinding war of attrition that the IDF is fighting in south Lebanon is taking place, one might expect that the major contenders for the position of prime minister would make the issue a central focus of their campaigns. But instead of exhibiting leadership and explaining in detail how they propose to solve the quandary the IDF is stuck in, the candidates seek to avoid the subject at every opportunity. When they are pressed to address the matter, the best they seem to be able to do is to provide a not very convincing case for continuing the painful status quo.

The two Hizbullah actions against IDF forces in the past week, and the victims that they claimed, were heavy in poignant symbolism of how deeply entrenched the IDF is in a situation in which its hands are tied, and how futile numerous proposed solutions have been. The vehicle that was blown apart near Kafr Shaba on Sunday was a strongly armored, bulletproof Mercedes leading a heavily armed convoy. It was nevertheless sent twisting into the air as a burning wreck by a simple roadside bomb. The fact that the convoy had changed its planned route only hours prior to the bomb's detonation indicates that the roadside bomb was probably not deliberately aimed at Brig.-Gen. Erez Gerstein. What was deliberate was the desire to cause random damage to the IDF, because it is precisely random sources of attack that a conventional army finds most difficult to deal with.

Gerstein, who will be laid to rest today at 38, was the head of the IDF's Liaison Unit to South Lebanon, which meant that he was the senior officer in charge of the IDF's relations with the South Lebanon Army, a force that Israel once hoped would develop into an independent fighting unit which would relieve it of the brunt of the burden of the fighting in south Lebanon, but which has long since failed to live up to these expectations. In the car with him, alongside his faithful driver, Chief Warrant Officer Imad Abu Rish, and his radio operator, St.-Sgt. Omer Alkabetz, was Ilan Roeh, Israel Radio's reporter in the North. The fact that a journalist was riding alongside the general underscores the extent to which military operations are now exposed to media scrutiny. In contrast to what might have been the case 30 years ago, today the IDF's successes and failures are broadcast into every home in Israel.

The clash with Hizbullah guerrillas that took the lives of three soldiers last week hit one of the IDF's most prominent commando strike forces. Israel became a world leader in conventional and commando tactics during the years in which it was faced with the challenges of fighting all-out wars and combatting terrorism. In both cases, the IDF succeeded very well in overcoming the challenges. Faced with the riddle of fighting a guerrilla war with a conventional army, however, the IDF has proven to be as baffled as were the British, Americans, and Soviets.

The basic difficulties of fighting guerrilla battles – especially against an enemy that has proven itself to be cunning and tough, such as Hizbullah – are well known. Hizbullah, which is not forced to defend a well-defined territory, can hide among the population and easily determine the place and time of its hit-and-run attacks, while avoiding the IDF's far superior firepower. While a success rate of 75 percent in a conventional war is usually enough for victory, a similar or even higher IDF success rate in southern Lebanon is perceived by the public as a bloodletting. The overall effect of a long, bloody drawn-out war of attrition is bound to wear down more quickly the domestic consensus in a democratic society such as Israel's than in an authoritarian regime.

None of the methods that have historically ended guerrilla wars are easily available or implementable in Lebanon. Depriving Hizbullah of the support of a significant proportion of the population in southern Lebanon is not a realistic option. Sustained, hard-hitting strikes against Hizbullah's sanctuaries, bases, and supply routes are difficult to initiate, given both the Grapes of Wrath understandings and the fact that such actions run the risk of entangling Israel with Hizbullah's patron, Syria. Micro-attacks frustrate Hizbullah planning to some extent but are not decisive, and often draw Katyusha fire against Galilee, which domestic Israeli opinion cannot tolerate. Unilateral withdrawal would pull the IDF out of the quagmire, but could further expose the North to ceaseless rocket attacks by an emboldened Hizbullah encouraged by Syria. Negotiations with the fictitiously sovereign state of Lebanon will be futile without Syrian acquiescence at the least, which will inevitably mean conducting long and difficult negotiations with Syria on the Golan Heights.

It is when faced with such formidable challenges that true leaders are expected to rise to the occasion and prove that they have the capacities to take the decisions needed to rectify the situation and at the same time forge a stable enough public consensus to implement perhaps painful initiatives. Ehud Barak, Yitzhak Mordechai, and Binyamin Netanyahu have all had extensive experience dealing with the Lebanon situation on a number of levels. It is incumbent on them to come to the electorate and clearly enunciate what they intend to do about the war in south Lebanon if they wish to obtain a mandate for action after the elections. Simply promising more of the same is not satisfactory.

Leave Lebanon

URI DROMI

The two recent bloody events in Lebanon must have filled every Israeli with frustration and rage. After almost two decades of fighting on this cursed piece of earth, and trying everything under the sun, it seems that we are back at square one.

The mightiest power in the Middle East looks helpless against a bunch of resilient guerrilla fighters, who operate smoothly within the friendly Lebanese population, enjoy the benefit of good intelligence, target elite Israeli units and high-ranking officers, and – adding insult to injury – shell the north of Israel at will.

Then make sure Syria understands the consequences of any more attacks on the North

Sending our aircraft to pound at the Hizbullah's bases in the Bekaa Valley might boost our morale for a while and impair the organization's capacity for a short time, but it will not solve the problem.

What, then, should we do next? Strike at vital civilian targets in Lebanon, to force its government to curb Hizbullah's activity? Siege Beirut? Bomb the villagers out from their homes in the south, making them cry so loud that the whole world, even Damascus, will hear and do something?

Alas, we have tried all that and more, but to no avail.

The reason for our frustration and rage lies in the absence of clear, solid and coherent strategy. What exactly are our aims in staying in Lebanon? What is the purpose of the security zone, if the Hizbullah has managed time and again to infiltrate down to the border? And what kind of security is this when the Hizbullah can launch Katyushas that will soon reach the outskirts of Haifa?

The analogy to Vietnam is worn out, but nonetheless important in demonstrating our flaws of strategy in Lebanon.

When America first went to Vietnam, its purpose was to assist the South Vietnamese in fighting the Vietcong. Soon enough, it found itself up to its neck in the Vietnamese quagmire, wavering between numerous aims: chasing the Vietcong in the jungles; "pacifying" villages; messing with the rotten local politics; fighting regular North Vietnamese units; and eventually bombing North Vietnam.

The lack of clear strategy and the feeling of deadlock produced frantic, even pathetic efforts to boast of a success, any success.

All that time, the North Vietnamese military genius General Giap pulled the strings from Hanoi, bleeding the US forces and watching with satisfaction how American morale at home was being steadily undermined by the daily, gruesome TV coverage from the battlefield.

The sad irony is that the US armed forces performed magnificently in the Vietnam War (as shown in a book called *The System Worked*). With its flawed strategy, however, all the bombs in the American arsenal couldn't change the course of events. By failing to take the bull by the horns, i.e. defeating the true perpetrator, Giap, the greatest power on earth was forced to go home humiliated.

UNLIKE the US, we can't just wash our hands of Lebanon and "go home."

What we can and must do, however, is first declare our intention to withdraw to the international border. By so doing, we will unite the whole Israeli public behind a just cause, gain the support and sympathy of the world, strip the Hizbullah of its ideological raison d'etre, and free ourselves from the chains of the "understandings" with the Hizbullah (an unprecedented landmark in the history of counter-guerrilla warfare!).

We should then advise Syria that since it rules Lebanon, we are going to apply on our border with Lebanon the same rules of engagement prevailing on the Israeli-Syrian border.

Remember: That border has been quiet for the last 25 years, because Assad doesn't dare invoke the wrath of the IDF – and why should he, when he can easily harass us through his proxies in Lebanon and get away with it?. By doing this we will also restore the deterrence of our army, which has been for so long eroded by its misuse in Lebanon.

If our unilateral move is followed by more attacks from Lebanon, and we are forced to launch another Operation Accountability, then it should be aimed at the real villain, namely Syria. If Hafez Assad chooses to meet us at the negotiation table, he will be surprised at how much we are willing to trade for real peace, which will also conclude the Lebanon affair. But if he decides to go on with his dirty tricks in Lebanon, he should meet our iron fist.

Could this escalate into a full scale war with Syria? Not necessarily. The cautious Assad, while a master of brinkmanship, has in the past shown his reluctance to be drawn to a crisis not on his own terms. In the meantime, we should turn the tables on him.

And once he starts paying the bill for his insurgency, the Hizbullah will freeze its operations against Israel immediately. Such are the rules of the game in this region. It's time we start playing by them.

The writer is a reserve colonel in the IAF and a former director of the Government Press Office.

Dry Bones



Our own 'independent counsel'

EVELYN GORDON

Though Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr did not succeed in getting rid of President Bill Clinton, his investigation may nonetheless have a far-reaching impact on the US government. With the impeachment trial over, the Senate has proceeded to the next piece of business generated by Starr's probe. Its Governmental Affairs Committee is holding hearings on whether to extend, revise or cancel the law that made Starr's actions possible: the Independent Counsel Act.

This law requires the attorney-general to seek the appointment of an independent counsel if there is evidence of criminal behavior by a senior government official. The counsel is chosen by three federal judges, and can be removed only by a similar panel.

The rationale for the law was that the attorney-general, being subordinate to the government, could not be trusted to investigate crimes by highly-placed officials. Passed in 1978, with Watergate still fresh in legislators' minds, it initially commanded strong bipartisan support.

Now, however, there appears to be equally strong bipartisan sentiment in favor of drastically limiting the act, or scrapping it altogether. In the wake of the Clinton impeachment, the possible abuses of the system have become all too evident.

The fact that Starr sometimes seemed to be conducting a personal vendetta against Clinton was the least of the problems. Even were he driven by the purest of motives, the fact remains that this system gave him the power to disrupt the entire government for months over an issue most Americans considered trivial.

Furthermore, as Republican Senator Mitch McConnell noted in explaining his opposition to the law, it has had the perverse effect of "diminish[ing] the importance of ethics in government.." Once an investigation has been turned over to an independent counsel, the public feels it can stop caring about the issue.

Israelis have tended to view the Clinton affair with the smug assurance that "it could never happen here." The disturbing truth, however, is that a succession of court rulings have granted Israel's attorney-general the same total independence enjoyed by Starr – even though Israel's top prosecutor is still nominally subservient to the government. And the country has already begun reaping the same fruits of its folly as America.

ATTORNEYS-GENERAL here already can – and do – get innocent people thrown or kept out of office, thanks to a High Court of Justice ruling requiring indicted ministers to resign. In 1996, for instance, then attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair used a planned indictment to deny Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan – who was later acquitted in court – the Internal Security portfolio.

An even more egregious example was Ben-Yair's investigation of then justice minister Yaakov Neeman that same year. Immediately after Neeman was appointed, Ben-Yair suddenly decided that an allegation both police and prosecution had ignored for the past four years – that Neeman had suborned a witness – was so serious that it made an immediate investigation imperative.

Ben-Yair knew he was unlikely to be able to indict, since both Neeman and the witness had consistently denied the accusation. However, the probe forced Neeman to resign.

When, as expected, he failed to uncover enough evidence to charge Neeman in this affair, Ben-Yair was still not content to let the matter drop. Instead, he filed perjury charges against Neeman on account of an affidavit the latter had submitted while trying to disprove the allegations of suborning a witness.

The Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court not only dismissed the charges, but sharply criticized the prosecution for having brought them. But by the time this verdict was handed down, the Justice Ministry had already been given to someone else.

The "diminished importance of ethics in government" cited by McConnell is also evident here. Consider the 1997 Bar-On Affair, in which Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu allegedly named Roni Bar-On attorney-general in exchange for Bar-On's willingness to drop criminal charges against MK Aryeh Deri.

An exhaustive investigation turned up no evidence to support this allegation, but it did turn up an ugly fact: that Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi had lied to the cabinet while advocating the appointment.

In any normal democracy, this would have created a public outcry for Hanegbi's resignation. Israelis, however, have delegated all such moral judgments to their independent expert: the attorney-general.

Thus, when Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein reached the only possible legal conclusion – that Hanegbi's behavior, though despicable, was not indictable – the public outcry against Hanegbi's ethical atrocity suddenly disappeared.

Israel has not yet experienced a fiasco that can match the Clinton impeachment for sheer magnitude. But wisdom often consists of learning from others' mistakes. The Knesset should take steps now to place reasonable limits on the attorney-general's power.

Double standard

NITSANA DARSHAN-LEITNER

As the attorney who represented Samuel Sheinbein, the Maryland teenager accused of murder, in his initial court proceedings in Israel, I have witnessed first-hand the Clinton administration's and Attorney-General Janet Reno's intense efforts to secure the transfer of the defendant to the US for prosecution.

With last week's Supreme Court decision that Sheinbein is not extraditable and will instead stand trial in Israel, the matter should be put to rest.

What surprises me – and many Israelis – is that neither the administration, nor the Congressmen who have taken an interest in the Sheinbein case, have ever asked Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to hand over to the US the Palestinian terrorists who have been identified as having taken part in the murders of Americans and are now living in Arafat's territory.

Why the loud demands to hand over an Israeli suspected of killing an American, but total silence regarding the seven Palestinian Arabs who killed Americans in recent years? Five of the seven are roaming free; the other two are in Arafat's custody, but probably not for very long, given his notorious "revolving door" justice system.)

Just because Sheinbein is not being extradited does not mean he will necessarily go free. On the contrary, he will undoubtedly continue to be held without bail until his trial, during which US legal officials will be able to assist the Israeli prosecutors in making their case in court.

If Sheinbein is convicted, he will certainly receive a severe prison sentence; life imprisonment is the usual punishment for crimes of this nature. The American public can rest assured that the punishment he would receive in Israel would be comparable to what he would receive in the US.

By contrast, Palestinian Arabs who murder Americans are treated like heroes by Arafat.

Consider the case of Abu Abbas, who masterminded the 1985 hijacking of the *Achille Lauro*, in which a wheelchair-bound American tourist, Leon Klinghoffer, was murdered. Abbas was welcomed by Arafat in Gaza for the PLO's Palestine National Council session in 1996 – just days after the Sharm el-Sheikh summit convened by President Bill Clinton, at which Arafat pledged to fight terrorism! Abbas returned in the spring to Gaza, where he is living openly, thumbing his nose at American and Italian justice.

Or consider the case of Amin el-Hindi. He masterminded the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre in which weightlifter David Berger, a Cleveland native, was murdered. Hindi is currently chief of the PLO's General Intelligence Service.

A MORE recent case involves David Boim, an American-Israeli teenager who was murdered by Palestinian terrorists in May 1996. I have represented the Boim family in legal proceedings related to the case, and I have witnessed their pain and anguish. The pain of their son being murdered has been compounded by the anguish of watching the PA briefly arrest the killer, Imjad Hinawi, and then let him out for a "weekend furlough" from which he did not return.

After Congressional protests, Arafat arrested Hinawi earlier this year, gave him a five-minute trial, and sentenced him to 10 years in prison. That's an outrageously light sentence for murder. Even worse, there is little chance Hinawi will stay in prison that long, since many other terrorists whom Arafat has sentenced to jail terms were set free after just a few months.

Israel had also been urging Arafat to arrest the second suspect in the murder of David Boim, Khalil Ibrahim Sharif. But Arafat refused to lift a finger. Sharif later turned up as one of the three suicide bombers who blew themselves up on Jerusalem's Ben-Yehuda Street in September, killing five passersby – including a 14-year-old schoolgirl from California, Yael Botwin. If the PA authorities had arrested Sharif he never would have been able to take part in the Ben-Yehuda bombing. Yael Botwin might still be alive.

If Arafat and the PA could be trusted to seriously prosecute and punish the Arab killers of Americans, most Americans would probably not object to Arafat's refusal to extradite those killers.

But Arafat refuses to prosecute or punish them – some, like Amin el-Hindi, are even promoted to senior positions of authority – and therefore every American has a right to demand that those killers be handed over to the US, where they will be tried according to appropriate standards of modern justice and punished as they deserve.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STAND FOR MIXED MARRIAGE CORRECTED

Sir, – Your obituary for my father, David Belin (*The Jerusalem Post*, January 19), highlighted his concern about outreach and Jewish survival, but misrepresented his views on rabbinic officiation at interfaith marriages.

The resolution my father proposed for debate at the 1997 convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations did not "call on Reform rabbis to officiate at interfaith marriages." Rather, it called for "respecting the right of self-determination on the part of each rabbi whether to officiate" at intermarriages when there is a commitment to raise children as Jews.

Specifically, it urged the Central Conference of American Rabbis "to rescind from the first paragraph of its 1973 Resolution that language which declared 'its opposition to participation by its members in any ceremony that solemnizes a mixed marriage,' where the couple has agreed to identify as a Jewish household and raise any children as Jews.'

Your obituary stated that "Belin was stymied at the 1997 convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which saw his efforts as intruding on the Rabbinate." In fact, the resolutions committee of the UAHC did not even allow my father's proposal to be debated at that convention.

Interestingly, the committee accepted all 13 other resolutions proposed for debate that year, including several concerning secular matters (such as animal welfare and campaign finance reform) that do not address the issue of Jewish continuity.

LAURA BELIN

Oxford.

IT'S LEG ROOM

Sir, – Yoel Feldschuh, El Al general manager, in announcing the purchase of Boeing 737-800 planes ("More space for packages."), is quoted as saying, "Jews like a lot of room for packages." Not only is the remark a blatant stereotype against the Jewish people, Mr. Feldschuh's major market, but he is also wrong. El Al's passengers (of all persuasions) like leg room, the very item that El Al is so stingy on, and would even reduce in order to satisfy its greed of storing more passengers on each plane like packers store sardines in the can.

El Al constantly complains that it is losing passengers to its competitors because it cannot fly on the Sabbath. Passengers are seeking other airlines because of the discomfort of flying El Al. I would never fly on the Sabbath, yet can't wait until Continental Airlines starts its Newark-Tel Aviv route. At least on their planes, I will not get leg cramps sitting so uncomfortably for so many hours.

Yes, Mr. Feldschuh, Jews like lots of room for packages (as all other people do), but they like leg room even more. And the most important thing that at least this Jew dislikes is the general manager of my country's national airline making disparaging remarks about my people, as well as the major source of its revenue.

SEYMOUR BRODSKY

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On March 2, 1934, *The Palestine Post* reported that the Jewish population of Jaffa had grown considerably due to the shortage of dwellings and high rents in Tel Aviv. Jews constituted more than the third of the town's population already and demanded proper representation on the Municipal Council.

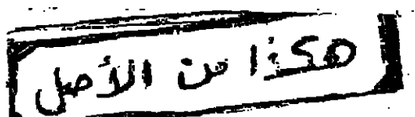
50 years ago: On March 2, 1949, *The Palestine Post* reported that President Chaim Weizmann paid his first official visit to Tel Aviv.

Israeli envoys arrived at Rhodes for negotiations with Transjordan.

In Jerusalem the UN Conciliation Commission issued an invitation to seven Arab countries to meet in Beirut on March 21, to consult on how to enter and conduct peace negotiations with Israel.

Alexander Zvielli





هكذا من الأصل

When truth is stranger than fiction

A California author writes a thriller about art stolen by the Nazis – then meets the characters in his book. Sue Fishkoff reports



Looted and never located: One of the Unger family's most valuable paintings, 'The Holy Family,' attributed to Tintoretto.

Sometimes nature imitates art, and truth is more implausible than fiction.

Last August, American mystery writer Aaron Elkins put the finishing touches on his latest novel, an international art thriller called *Loot* published last month by William Morrow.

After sending off the manuscript, he moved to the small California town of Carmel – *population 2,000* – and met his neighbor, a Jewish woman from Austria who had lived through what he wrote about in his novel.

Loot begins with a mysterious Old Master painting that is brought into a Boston pawnshop by a man with a Russian accent.

When the pawnshop owner is murdered the next day, curator-turned-investigator Ben Revere embarks on an international search for the roots of the priceless painting, and becomes embroiled in the shadowy world of art collections looted by the Nazis in the 1930s and early '40s, mostly from European Jews.

Revere's fictionalized search – and Elkins's own actual research for the book – took him to the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, a country still holding more than a million pieces of German artwork, much of it Nazi loot; to Mafia figures in Budapest, part of an international crime network that traffics in that stolen art today; and to the Altaussee salt mines of Austria, where the Nazis crated and stored mountains of purloined paintings and sculptures (see sidebar).

BACK in real-life Carmel, California, Ruth and Richard (not their real names) are still trying to recover two Old Master paintings stolen from Ruth's family by the Nazi regime in pre-war Austria.

Ruth's father, Frederic Unger, was briefly jailed by the authorities in Vienna in the spring of 1938. He was released on condition that he turn over all his assets to the Nazi-controlled Austrian state. The core of the family's wealth was a large art collection, including about two dozen Old Master paintings.

The art was left behind, and the Ungers left Austria that summer, first for Switzerland and then on to Paris. They made a deal with the Gestapo, agreeing to pay a substantial sum of money to buy back their own art and furniture, which was shipped from Austria to Paris and kept crated in a state warehouse.

Before the shipment left Austria, Vienna's Kunsthistorische Museum removed two Old Master paintings from the Ungers' collection "as a sort of sub-ransom for their permission to let out the rest," Ruth says wryly.

In Paris, the Ungers tried to obtain French citizenship.

"It was suggested that my parents 'donate' some paintings to the Louvre in order to streamline the process," Ruth says.

Although the Ungers themselves were unable to gain access to their stored artwork, the Louvre was able to enter and remove three paintings from the shipment: two 17th-century Dutch works and an 18th-century French painting.

"They wrote us a nice thank-you letter," Ruth recalls.

In April 1939 the family decided to use their precious American visas, and set off for New York and finally California, without having obtained either French citizenship or the rights to their crated art collection, which remained behind in Paris.

Even after the German invasion, and right up until the US entered the war in December 1941, the Ungers continued negotiating with the puppet French government, paying spurious storage costs and insurance for their paintings.

After the war, almost all of the Ungers' stolen paintings were restored to them with the help of the US Army's Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives recovery division.

Many of the Ungers' paintings showed up on German shipping records recovered by the Allies after the war, including a list of pictures destined for transport from Paris to Nikolsburg on November 15, 1943.

On that same list were paintings owned by the Kanns, a prominent art-dealer family, and the Rothschilds.

"At least our paintings were stolen in good company," Richard comments.

MOST of Unger's paintings were found by American soldiers in various places in Germany, where they had been shipped during the war. Five of the paintings never left Paris – the French underground found them at Liberation, loaded aboard trains destined for Germany.

"They were still shipping out paintings, even as the Allies moved in," marvels Richard.

The two paintings in Austria, held by the Kunsthistorische and the Albertina museums, were returned to the Ungers only after three years of lawsuits. At one point, Richard says, the museums offered the Ungers several other, less valuable paintings in exchange.

"Their final argument in court was, 'If you bring back all the other paintings into Austria, you can have these ones back,'" says Richard.

The Austrian High Court ruled against the museums.

The Louvre proved a more difficult adversary. When Frederic Unger asked for his three paintings back after the war, Richard relates, the French state museum insisted they had been given "as a gift."

The family's two Dutch paintings still hang today in the Louvre's galleries, with a plaque identifying them as "donated by the Unger family." The third painting seems to have disappeared.

A French government official told the family, according to Richard, "If the museum had to give back all the paintings we acquired under dubious circumstances, we'd have nothing on our walls."

Two of the family's Old Master paintings, however, were never located.

"They were considered the most valuable of my father's collection," says Unger's daughter.

One was a "holy family" scene, attributed to Tintoretto. The other was a late 15th-century *Madonna and Child* by Jacopo del Sellaio, a contemporary of Botticelli.

Frederic Unger died in 1954, and his wife passed away in 1994.

Last year, Ruth read a *New York Times* story about the World Jewish Congress's Commission for Art Recovery. She wrote to the commission, and sent pictures of the two missing paintings.

In December, the news came back: The Sellaio had been sold at auction in 1985 by Christie's of London.

Ruth and Richard are now trying to locate the buyer, and stake their claim to the painting stolen from Frederic Unger more than 60 years ago.

More than a million works of art were looted by the Nazis during their reign of terror. About 110,000 paintings – and at least that number of smaller objects such as furnishings, jewelry and valuable coins – were never returned to their original owners, according to Dr. Constance Lowenthal, director of the WJC's art recovery commission.

Today, more than 50 years after the war, there has been a worldwide burst of interest in recovering goods and money taken from European Jews by the Nazis. And after years of silence, Lowenthal says, cases of rediscovered stolen artwork "are coming out of the woodwork."

There are relatively few cases, however, where such stolen art is found and its ownership is contested in court. In fact, Lowenthal says she knows of only about 20 such cases in the past 15 years.

The Carmel case is one of them, she says.

"We are on the trail of it," she states.

But the couple's chances of recovering their Sellaio depend greatly on where the painting is physically located today, because they would have to bring their lawsuit in that country.

In Britain or North America, Lowenthal explains, common law applies. A person cannot get "good title," or legal ownership, of a thing that was stolen from someone else. Legal ownership remains with the original theft victim.

If the Sellaio is located in one of those countries, Ruth and Richard's chances of recovery are greater than if it is found elsewhere in Europe, where civil law applies. According to civil law, a person who buys an object "in good faith" has as much right to it, if not more, than the original owner, even if the object was stolen.

This "good-faith purchaser" rule figures prominently in Elkins's book, where three separate characters all claim to "own" the painting in question: two who claim it was stolen from them by the Nazis, and one, a Hungarian art dealer, who claims he bought it after the war "in good faith" from a reputable dealer.

"Let's say someone buys a painting for $1 million from Christie's, and someone else comes forward and says, 'That's my painting, it was stolen from me,'" Elkins posits.

"If the buyer gives it back, who will reimburse him his $1 million? Christie's?

"This is a problem the courts haven't worked out yet: the 'good-faith purchaser' who buys a painting from a reputable source. How do you make amends?"

With no international standard by which to judge such cases, and with original ownership so difficult to determine, Lowenthal says, "Lawsuits to recover stolen art tend to be long, drawn-out affairs."

Ruth and Richard aren't sure what they'll do.

"There's no guarantee that the person who bought it from Christie's hasn't sold it again, privately," says the son-in-law. It hasn't been sold at any of the major art auction houses since 1985, because that information would show up on computer databases.

"We don't even know what country it's in," says Ruth.

While her husband would "like to see justice done," she says her major interest is more sentimental.

"I'd like to see the painting again," she says wistfully. "It's been more than 60 years since I've seen it, and I was very fond of it."

Raiders of the lost art

Loot isn't American mystery writer Aaron Elkins's first foray into the world of international art theft.

The author of 16 mystery novels and the winner of the prestigious Edgar Award for *Old Bones*, Elkins has a gift for bringing history alive through careful research, fast-moving plot lines and compelling characterizations.

Loot is actually Elkins's third book about artwork stolen by the Nazis and later discovered under mysterious circumstances.

The plot hangs on a "lost truck" of Old Master paintings that is diverted on its way to Nazi storage facilities in the Altaussee salt mines located deep in the Austrian Alps. No such lost truck existed, but most of the other key historical details in the book are true, including the mines themselves.

Yes, the Nazis stole millions of pieces of artwork from European Jews and other "enemies of the Reich," marking each one with letters and numbers to indicate the identity of the original owners. (Frederic Unger's paintings still bear a "U," for Unger, on their backs, and a number indicating their shipment lot.)

Yes, the East European and Russian underworld are heavily involved in trafficking in this stolen art today. Elkins visited a well-known flea market outside Budapest, the scene of a murder and shoot-out with Mafia thugs in his novel.

"There really are some shady characters hanging around there," he reports.

But those crime bosses rarely try to sell a hot Old Master on the open market.

"It's hard to move them," Elkins says. "Mostly they use the art as collateral for their drug trade.

"Much of the art is used for Mafia transactions, but they never leave their Swiss bank vaults. The Mafia is not always out there fencing art – there's more money to be made in drugs."

Elkins did not meet actual underworld figures face-to-face while researching his book. "Not that I know of, anyway," he quips.

ELKINS interviewed Dr. Constance Lowenthal, director of the art recovery commission of the World Jewish Congress, and went to St. Petersburg, where he learned that Russia still refuses to return more than a million pieces of art looted by the Nazis and taken back to Moscow after the war.



Writer Elkins: a gift for bringing history alive

In 1997, the Russian Duma, or parliament, officially nationalized it all, considering it legitimate war booty and poor payment for all Russia suffered in the war.

"That's pretty much the position of Russian art curators and museum directors, too," Elkins says.

"I can easily understand their viewpoint concerning the Nazis. But they keep treating it as if it's Nazi treasure, forgetting that a lot of it was stuff stolen by the Nazis from their victims."

The Russian attitude continues to be a "problem," admits Lowenthal.

"Russia has appropriated, against international agreements, works of art that belong to German institutions and some individuals."

At an international conference last year, she says, Russia announced that individuals who were victimized by the Nazis may make a claim for the restoration of their stolen property through their own governments.

"But that's a tiny percentage of what they're still holding," she points out.

Eight years ago, as the Soviet Union was collapsing, two young Russian art historians published an article in *Art News* stating that there were secret depositories in Russia where Nazi-looted art was still being kept.

Some of that stolen art was featured in a major Impressionists exhibition mounted by the Hermitage in 1995.

Although most of the characters in *Loot* are composite figures, Elkins bases the figure of art-recovery expert Christie Valle de Leon on Lowenthal. ("*Valle de leon*," Elkins points out, means "valley of the lion" in French, which in German becomes "Lowenthal.").

Lowenthal, for her part, says she was "very pleased" to appear in *Loot*, albeit in fictionalized form.

Elkins also interviewed Lane Faison, professor emeritus of Williams College, who was a young lieutenant with the three-man Office of Strategic Services' art looting investigation unit in 1945 and one of the first outsiders to lay eyes on the plundered artwork stored in the Altaussee salt mines.

Restoring that art to its original owners was, Elkins says, "one of the finest moments in American military history."

Elkins also paid a visit to Altaussee itself, where his "smiling young tour guide" made no mention of the mine's dubious wartime role as a Nazi warehouse for plundered art.

"The guides are young," Elkins says. "They really don't know."

– *S.F.*

The comic rabbi of Holywood

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

You have to go to haredi Har Nof to catch the best show in town. It's free, there's no minimum, and no cover (except for the one you have to put on your head).

It's Rabbi Dovid Orlofsky's *shiur* (lecture), and it's Torah talk with a twist: It's the best stand-up comedy east of the Borscht Belt.

"You ever see the typical rabbi?" Orlofsky says in an impromptu interview.

He affixes a puckish expression and intones monotonously: "I'd like to begiiiiin. With a humorous storrrrry. I'm sure everybody will enjoooooy.

There was a ma–" he snaps back to Orlofskiness: "Sometimes I'll do a really, really funny *shiur*, people will be on the floor, and they'll say to me later, 'What a powerful message.' And I'll say, 'I didn't think anyone got it.'"

He's a brilliant performer: the timing, the body language, the facial expressions, the pregnant pauses, the stage presence – not to mention great material: the Torah.

"Moshe Rabbeinu, from the time he's born until *Parshas Tetzaveh* [last week's Torah portion], is in every single parsha, with one exception – *Tetzaveh*. What happened to him? Why is he left out?

"...Moshe tries to strong-arm God. 'If you don't forgive the Jewish people, erase me from the Book. I'm not going to be part of it.' And God says, 'OK. You got it. I'll erase you from the Book.'

"At that moment it was decided that Moshe is going to be left out of one portion of the Bible. But if you had to pick one parsha to be left out of, you'd also pick *Tetzaveh*.

"So Moshe is finishing up the Torah, and he comes to *Tetzaveh*, and he realizes, 'Hey, I'm left out. My name's not here.' He's forgotten. But we all *remember* ... that he's forgotten."

Orlofsky is wending toward the subject of his *shiur*. He weaves through a cascading litany of wit and wisdom from the Torah and everyday life.

Saturday night, this included the Torah portion, a comparison of the *kohen* and the Catholic priest ("He acts as a buffer between people and God. It's not very different from your average Israeli bureaucrat"), anecdotes of bureaucratic insanity, the challenges of aliya ("You're called an *oleh* because the *ola* was the only sacrifice that was completely consumed – the burnt offering"), the darndest things his kids say, and of course Purim.

And somehow, he links it all together into one riveting message as advertised on neighborhood posters, the subject of his *shiur*: "The Legacy of Al Flosso."

Al Flosso?

"WHEN my father passed away, I had to decide what to put on the gravestone. I was taking a very long time. Y'know I always say, 'If I make a mistake, it doesn't matter, it's not etched in stone,' but *this* is etched in stone. And they said, 'How long does it take to write a gravestone?' I said, 'It takes a long time.' What's his legacy?

"That brings me to Al Flosso.

"I have to admit, I don't think a *shiur* ever had a title that elicited the reaction of 'The Legacy of Al Flosso.' People have stopped me in the street all Shabbos. They don't say 'Good Shabbos,' but that's normal. They just come to me and say, 'Who's Al Flosso?'

"Al Flosso was a vaudeville magician. When I was a kid, my father took me to his store. And Al Flosso wanted me to know he was very important. He showed me a trick.

"One of the things he used to do was produce a feather bouquet [from his sleeve]. He says: 'That's my move. Blackstone took that move from me. That's *my* move. I invented that move! I want you to remember,' he says to me, 'Kid – that's *my* move.'

"A few years later he passed away and I read his obituary in the paper. And no one mentioned ..."

Orlofsky's crowd bursts into laughter.

"And I'm sure he was looking down saying, 'You left out my move!'

"Now, he was a Jewish man. I don't know if he left behind anyone to say *kaddish* for him. I don't know if he gave to charity. But perhaps I should mention in public, that it was really Al Flosso who invented the backhanded feather bouquet move."

He looks heavenward. "I remember, Al." Grins and chuckles.

"That was Al's move. And that is Al Flosso's legacy.

"What's going to be our legacy, what are they going to write on our gravestone? Will we be remembered as the king of scrap iron? I saw that once in an obituary. 'The king of scrap iron.' I don't remember his name, forgive me [he glances heavenward]. What a legacy.

"And that's what we all read in shul this morning. Three *psukim* [verses]. There's going to come a time when Amalek will be forgotten, when Moshiach comes. They will be less remembered... than Al Flosso."

ORLOFSKY gives his age as "F-f-f-forty," and shakes his head. "It's frightening. I used to picture 43 as being as old as I could possibly be."

He says he's from "Lon Gisland, the Catholic part."

He's been in Israel 11 years and "I can just make myself understood in Hebrew, y'know, by yelling." He's big and beefy, suggesting that perhaps there's more than borscht behind his belt.

He's been "playing" the Zichron Yosef Synagogue for three years, and word has gotten around. On Saturday, there were about 70 men – almost all of them young, American, with black velvet kippot – and 40 women in the back rows.

But this, I am assured, is a quiet night. Sometimes, his fans tell me, it's hard to get a seat in the 700-seat shul.

Orlofsky teaches, lectures worldwide, does a Friday morning shtick (he mumbles furtively) "on a pirate radio station," Kol Simcha, 103.5. And he sells tapes of his lectures at NIS 12 each.

There's definitely method to his madness, and you can tell by the way people enter the shul: Even before Orlofsky makes his appearance, already they're smiling, glittery-eyed, anticipating a memorable hour. Afterwards, his listeners – groupies, perhaps – detain him with questions, knowing he'll give them answers with a comic spin. Orlofsky never misses a cue.

"I've got it easy by now. All I have to do is say 'good evening' and people are laughing already.

"Somebody told me once, 'I went home and I told the whole *shiur* to my husband.' So I said, 'How did you remember it?' She said, 'I remembered the jokes.' If you remember the jokes, you can put the *shiur* back together. So I use the jokes as a technique to make the point."

STANDING at the pulpit in front of the Torah scrolls, it goes without saying his routine is clean: no smut, no dirty words. But he can poke fun at even the biggest, holiest names:

"There's an edict: For the first time in history every last Jew in the entire world will be destroyed, but Mordechai says, 'Y'know, I'm inclined to think ... this *might* be the reason you [Esther] became the queen. Whaddaya think?'"

You could say he chose the Holy City over Hollywood.

"I was in Los Angeles, teaching. The father of one of the kids was an agent, and he offered me a job writing for television. Of course I fantasized about doing stand-up. But I figure, you die, you go up to heaven, and God says, 'OK, y'know, I gave you talents, what did you do with them?' I say 'What, you never saw my show?' He says, 'That's it? I gave you this ability to touch people's lives and instead you decide to distract them?'"

He may only reach hundreds at a time, instead of millions, but Dovid Orlofsky is content. This is his legacy.

'If you remember the jokes, you can put the shiur back together. So I use the jokes as a technique to make the point'



A wee dram



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

The Whisky Plot, a CD-ROM in English, developed and marketed by Uniqum Systems, Gothenberg, Sweden (www.uniqum.se), requires Windows 95 and above, marketed through www.whiskyweb.com, for adults, priced at £24, including postage and handling.
Rating: ★★★★

Alright, I can just hear those beer-bellied, two-fisted drinkers out there laughing at me – someone who drinks nothing but a little sweet wine for Shabbat kiddush or Sabra liqueur on happy occasions – for reviewing this disk.

I admit I'm no expert on whisky; I don't touch the stuff, nor do I remember the difference (once explained by our Irish-born columnist Thomas O'Dwyer) between whisky and whiskey.

But in software, the medium is as important as the message.

When Uniqum's Fredrik Tholander e-mailed me from Sweden to offer this disk for review, I soberly warned him that Jews aren't exactly big drinkers (although they do pack away more alcohol than they did a few decades ago, putting their lives at risk of road accidents and their livers at risk of cirrhosis). Still, Tholander was eager to have this disk reviewed.

And it's done very well. The piece of software is a database of 786 types and brands of whisky produced by 222 distilleries in Ireland (six of them), Wales (one), the US (17 from Kentucky and Tennessee only), Canada (one – Seagrams, a Jewish entry, from the Bronfman family), Japan (four) and Scotland (all the rest).

The user can select any of 14 different bagpipe tunes as background music to put him in the mood; if that's not his taste, modern music can be heard instead.

Each whisky is listed with an "identity card" of its own listing the brand, distillery, related facts and address. Surprisingly, there is no picture of each bottle, or even of the whisky in a glass.

But every little detail about the schnapps is there. Each database "card" lists the peatiness (I suppose I know what that means: something like garden fertilizer?), sweetness, color, nose (that is "bouquet," isn't it, or is that only a wine term?), flavor and finish (the end of a paint job?).

Color ranges from amber to copper to yellow; nose includes fruit, grape, grass, hay, salt (?), sherry, smokey, vanilla and wood; flavor includes chocolate, heather, herbal, honey, malt, nut and pepper; and finish means dry, cream, fruity, leather (??), light and so on.

A beginner's search can be performed by sliding an arrow up and down a scale of peatiness and sweetness from 1 to 100 or within any range between those numbers. For an advanced search, choose any of the other variables.

Without knowing what I was looking for (there is certainly no Carmel King David Concord kiddush wine listed here), I found numerous entries for a copper-colored, fruit-scented, chocolate-flavored cream-finished whisky.

There is also a "filter" device that lets you leave out of the search a certain region, age, type (spelled "typ") or strength, but the program writers should have used the correct spelling "applies" instead of "applays" – although maybe that's how it sounds to whisky drinkers in Sweden.

Click on a map to see the actual locations of the distilleries in each country.

Another feature is games, symbolized by a pair of dice. But if you haven't learned all 786 brands and 222 distilleries by heart, you're in for insults.

Playing the Connect Game, in which one has to match the brands with their distilleries, I took so much time to decide that the announcer growled: "Come on – what are you waiting for?... Oh, for God's sake, I haven't got all day!"

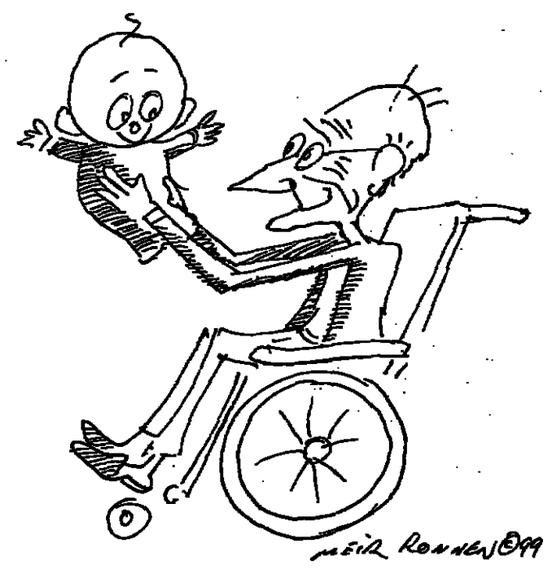
Then, when I clicked a wrong match, he had the impudence to say: "You must be joking," and when I finally gave up, he issued his final judgment: "This is *not* your cup of tea...."

In the 1X2 Game, one has to answer multiple choice questions based on material from the database; in the Drag-and-Drop Game (which is how I personally felt after spending half an hour on all these quizzes), you have to sort out an anagram of jumbled letters to figure out a brand name, such as St. Magdalene or Glen Garioch 10 years old (easiest to do if you're inebriated).

Well, Fredrik, *salud*, cheers, down the hatch and *lehaim* to you for this clever disk. But make sure you don't drive (even in a hard-disk drive) while you drink.

Born to be upbeat

We might think money, marital status, age and beauty determine how happy we are – but new research says we're wrong, Shari Roan writes



Chicago had 22 inches of snow during a single day last month. In Minot, N.D., it was 29 degrees below zero. In Alaska, it's so cold that the dog sleds are sitting idle.

From Alaska to Maine, people north of the 40th parallel are cursing the wicked winter of 1999.

But before getting too smug, those who live in warm weather should heed this little piece of advice: The climate you live in has very little to do with how happy you are.

That's the latest lesson to emerge from a body of psychological research on what makes people happy. In a recent article titled "Does Living in California Make People Happy?" psychologists found that the answer is a resounding no.

We've known, of course, for a long time that money can't buy you happiness, but researchers now are starting to understand why.

"Our research suggests a moral and a warning: Nothing that you focus on will make as much difference as you think," says David A. Schkade, a researcher at the University of Texas and co-author of the study.

Schkade and colleague Daniel Kahneman of Princeton University asked college students in the Midwest and in Southern California questions about their happiness. When rating themselves, the students in both regions were similar in their levels of happiness.

But when rating whether people like themselves would be happier living in California or the Midwest, both groups said that Californians would surely be happier.

The fact that the study, published in the September issue of *Psychological Science*, found that people in the Midwest expected Californians to be happier (largely because of the weather) shows a common flaw in thinking.

Various studies on happiness have found that things like weather, money, marital status, age and beauty do not significantly influence the happiness of most people – although we overwhelmingly think they do.

"We've gotten a lot of reaction to this article from people saying, 'I don't believe you that people in California aren't happier,' " Schkade said.

"People are not good judges of the effect of changing circumstances on their own life satisfaction or that of others."

The danger of misunderstanding the true origins of happiness, he says, is that "people might actually move to California in the mistaken belief that this would make them happier."

Or they might do other things – change jobs, divorce, buy a Ferrari – thinking such action is the ticket to happiness.

It won't be, agrees psychologist David Lykken, author of a new book called *Happiness*. "The route to happiness is not winning the gold," he says. "You feel grand for a while, but it doesn't last."

The idea that happiness is not greatly affected by major life circumstances is a somewhat startling notion to some.

While the first major study in this area dates back more than 20 years, "it's really only been in the last decade that this whole area of work has begun to take off and gain wider interest," Schkade said.

That study, in 1978, found that people who became paraplegics did not become significantly unhappy because of losing their ability to walk. The same study also found that lottery winners, over time, were not greatly happier because of their new wealth.

"This article is famous because its results are deeply counterintuitive," Schkade said. "An observer would expect paraplegics to be more miserable and lottery winners to be happier than they are in actuality."

Other studies confirmed that changing circumstances don't seem to shake people from their tendencies to be either happy or unhappy.

For example, studies show that most people return to their normal levels of happiness within a year after the death of a loved one and that no particular time of life is happier than another.

Physically attractive people aren't happier, and people with disabilities aren't sadder, research has found.

PERHAPS the strongest evidence that happiness isn't found or earned was published in 1996 in a study from the Minnesota Study of Twins Reared Apart.

According to Lykken and co-author Auke Tellegen of the University of Minnesota, as much as 50 percent of a person's tendency to be happy is inherited; that is, people are born upbeat or melancholy.

The Minneapolis study looked at 254 sets of identical and fraternal twins who were separated at birth and reared apart. The happiness levels of the identical twins were strongly correlated. The researchers then studied a smaller number of the sets of twins and looked at their happiness scores – both the identical and fraternal twins – on two happiness surveys given 10 years apart.

"Among the identical twins, we found we could predict Twin B's score on the second exam from Twin A's score 10 years earlier," Lykken said. "But among fraternal twins, who share only half their genes, there was almost no predictability."

Based on this research, Lykken has proposed what he calls a "set point" theory of happiness. "This means that six months or a year after winning the lottery, people are back to their original levels of happiness – their set point," he said.

While there appears to be strong evidence that happiness is at least partially hereditary, Lykken still believes that people can change their sense of well-being.

"If things are genetic, then there is a certain fatalism around," Lykken said. "But what our studies mean is that you can let the genetic steersman have his head or try to change it."

FOR example, research has now turned toward the characteristics that depressed people tend to possess – such as persistently negative or self-deprecating thoughts – with the goal of trying to alter those characteristics.

But a possible flaw in the happiness-is-hereditary theory is that the current studies don't represent a wide range of environments in which people were raised.

More studies are needed across cultures to see whether certain environments boost or erode happiness, says University of Illinois psychologist Ed Diener, one of the leaders in describing the origins of happiness.

"The heritability figure is not a set figure but varies according to where the studies are done," he said.

Still, most people can probably accept that at least some part of personal happiness is inherited. But, Schkade said, few people buy the idea that major life events won't alter one's happiness quotient.

Take Janet McIntyre. An educated professional who is familiar with the research on happiness, she moved to Los Angeles from Chicago in December and says the change in climate has made her feel great.

"I've seen the studies that suggest people have a happiness set point," McIntyre said. "But the sunshine just makes me happier.

"January and February in Chicago are cold and very dark. To wake up and have the sunshine streaming in your windows makes the day seem like it has more possibilities." (LA Times)

Grapevine

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

With censorship hurdles behind him and his book *Ana Kurdi* finally in print, **Eliezer (Geyzi) Tsafrir**, who headed the Mossad's operations in Kurdistan in the mid-1970s, thought that perhaps some act of Saddam Hussein's might help promote his literary interests. He hadn't counted on the arrest of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan, which brought Kurdish history and aspirations back to world attention.

According to Tsafrir, there is a special bond between the Kurds and the Israelis, because of parallels between Kurdish and Jewish suffering and because Kurdish military leaders, like Israelis, lead their troops into battle and mourn each and every fallen soldier.

Every member of the Mossad who engaged in undercover activities in Kurdistan came back with glowing reports on and high respect for the Kurds, says Tsafrir, citing as an example **David Kimche**, who later became director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

"WINE and food are two sides of the same coin." Thus spake **Victor Schoenfeld**, winemaker for the Golan Heights Winery, to members of the GHW Customers' Club as they pampered their palates with a multi-course gourmet meal washed down by a dozen Yarden, Gamla and Katzrin wines ranging in vintage from 1985 to 1998.



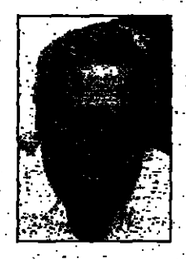
(Left) Shmuel Hadas, former ambassador to the Holy See, with a smiling Msgr. Pietro Sambi.

Waiters at the exclusive La Regence Grill Room at Jerusalem's King David Hotel looked like they were running a relay race as they removed wineglasses from the table and replaced them with fresh ones. Some of the tables became a little overcrowded with stemware as guests who had taken a liking to certain bouquets refused to allow them to be confiscated in favor of another. They just lined them all up and sipped from whichever glass took their fancy.

The lack of pomp brought a smile to the face of **Adam Montefiore**, GHW's international marketing manager, who confessed to hating wine snobs.

"Whatever wine you like is right for you," he said.

WHEN **Avi Blustein**, director-general of the Religious Affairs Ministry, attended the annual dinner of the Ratzon Yehuda hesder yeshiva, he thought that he was just another VIP, along with **Yigal Bibi**, deputy minister for religious affairs, and guest speaker **David Bar-Illan**, the prime minister's director of communications. What Blustein didn't know until they dimmed the lights was that the dinner was also a surprise birthday party for him. That only became clear when he was presented with an iced chocolate cake topped by a sparkler.



Moshe Katsav: tongue trouble

Waxing nostalgic, Bar-Illan remarked that in some ways it had been easier for him to be editor of *The Jerusalem Post* than to be involved in decisions in the Prime Minister's Office. As editor he could write with assuredness about the right and the wrong thing to do, he said. But in government, the decision makers are often faced with choices – like in Lebanon – "where none of the options are good."

VERY few people manage to celebrate three jubilees in the space of a year – which makes Jerusalemites **Artie (Aharon)** and **Sara Roth** special. The couple, who traditionally hold an open house on Independence Day in the spacious garden of their home, last May toasted Israel's jubilee. Early this year, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, and last Friday their children **Rivka** and **Eli Montag**, **Hadassah (Dassi)** and **Haim Saban** and **Raya** and **David Roth**, their grandchildren and great-grandchildren hosted a gala buncheon to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Roths' aliya.

Former New Yorkers who represent the living history of Israel, the Roths always joke that they came for their honeymoon and are still here.

His honeymoon trip was not Artie Roth's first experience in the Middle East. As a member of US Intelligence during World War II, he was sent to Palestine, where he spent one-and-a-half years. Back in America after the war, he was active with **Teddy Kollek** in recruiting arms for the state-in-the-making and in recruiting volunteers for the Hagana.

Both Artie and Sara helped pioneer the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel and over the years have welcomed literally hundreds of newcomers to their home, offering them meals, a bed, introductions to potential employers and various other forms of assistance.

Most of those joining the Roths in their celebration were American expatriates. They included their best friends **Hannah** and **Robbie Cherlow**, **Moshe Hellner**, who has been here since 1946; **Rabbi Chaim Lubin**, **Eva Blondheim**, **Maxine Miller**, **Violet Rezuikoff** and **Shifra Gordon**. Also there were **Tama Goldman**, **Murray** and **Hana Greenfield**, **David** and **Florence Alexander** and **Zacharyah** and **Lee Dor-Shav**. Had it not been Friday, the festivities would have gone on into the night. As it was, guests got an early taste of Purim with the distribution of colorful hats, masks, whistles and noisemakers.

"LET this gathering be an image of our future" suggested Msgr. **Pietro Sambi**, Apostolic Nuncio in Israel, as he surveyed the large gathering of Jews, Christians and Moslems at the annual meeting of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel.

Speaking on relations between Rome and Jerusalem toward the millennium, Sambi forecast that the year 2000 would witness great movement between the two cities. Moreover, Catholic pilgrims going to Rome from the Americas and Asia will include the Holy Land, "because the price of the ticket will be the same."

AN Italian experience has led to an Austria-Israel alliance. When **Andreas Martinelli**, creative director at Wolford, the Austrian-based, up-market legwear and bodysuit manufacturer, was working for the Rati company in Italy, he was impressed by the skills and technological ability of two Shenkar College interns who were there soaking up the Italian fashion scene.

After joining Wolford, which has boutiques in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, Martinelli said that if he was coming to Israel to look at the company's boutiques, he might just as well pay a visit to Shenkar to select a couple of students to spend three months with a company where "hi-tech meets high fashion."

During his lightning visit, Martinelli interviewed suitable candidates, two of whom will have an all-expenses-paid learning experience in Austria. They will also have an opportunity to contribute their own skills and knowledge to Wolford. If the experiment proves successful, the relationship between Wolford and Shenkar will continue.

EVEN though he contemplated contesting **Binyamin Netanyahu** for the Likud leadership, Jerusalem mayor **Ehud Olmert** has stated publicly that no government of Israel has worked so staunchly for the interests of Jerusalem as the one headed by Netanyahu. It's for that reason – and the anticipation of some tangible support for the capital's sadly depleted coffers – that Olmert is making the municipal chambers available for a cabinet session on March 14.

Whether the premier can help the city to overcome its deficit is another story. Finance Minister **Meir Sheetrit** is said to have a particularly tight hold on the national purse strings.

OPENING their Drugstore 2000 supermarket in Jerusalem on Shabbat has saved owners **Yitzhak Eisencott** and **Moshe Abergil** a small fortune in advertising costs. As a result of the haredi threats and demonstrations against them for doing business on Shabbat, they've received so much publicity that the whole country knows about them.

ADDRESSING the National Convention of the Israel Hotel Association, Tourism Minister **Moshe Katsav** had trouble winding his tongue around the name of fellow VIP guest **Benzion Zilberfarb**, the Finance Ministry director-general. After Katsav repeatedly stumbled over the pronunciation, someone in the audience tried to help him out by translating it into Hebrew *tzeva kesef* (silver color).

"This is when we really need a Ben-Gurion," said Katsav alluding to the insistence of Israel's first prime minister that civil servants Hebraicize their names.

I'm knee deep in creeps

Dear Ruthie



Ruthie Blum

Dear Ruthie,
I have a problem which is so disturbing I am too ashamed to seek help: I am only capable of having sex with men with whom I have nothing in common, who treat me badly, or who are married.

I have been trying to force myself out of this behavior for years, with no success. Every time I meet a man I like, or who is suitable in some way, any physical attraction I start to feel disappears the minute the possibility of consummation arises. This has led to quite a few embarrassing moments, when I freeze up and end up pushing away someone who really doesn't deserve it.

Then I find myself promptly in the arms of someone else who is unavailable, or a real creep.

I don't know what to do. I would like to have a family some day, and at this rate I never will. Also, I always feel numb and degraded when I'm in these awful relationships.

What do you suggest?
At War, Not in Love
Somewhere in the US

Dear At War,

If you are only attracted to unsuitable suitors, fear of some kind is probably lurking in your unconscious.

This is not as unusual an emotional phenomenon as you might think. What is telling in your case, however, is the shame you are attaching to it.

That you view this problem as so embarrassing that you are unable to seek help is relevant. It is also an indication that the reason behind it is something you haven't dealt with – undoubtedly going as far back as childhood.

Your ability to engage only in sexual relations void of intimacy or long-term viability should lead you to examine your attitude toward sex altogether.

What you are describing – numbness and degradation – could be due to early sexual experiences which were so dehumanizing as to force you to "split" yourself in half – to keep your soul untouched while your body was being ravaged. This is common to victims of incest or other forms of molestation.

If you were not such a victim, your present disconnection could be due to a different kind of fear – of commitment.

Consider the possibility that your inability to become involved sexually with someone you actually like or with whom you have something in common stems from an inner realization that the combination of sex and suitability really could lead to marriage. And though you claim to want to have a family some day, you may be resisting this inclination with all your might.

Why you might be resistant to something you claim to want only you can say. But fear of commitment is usually fear of abandonment in disguise.

In other words, as long as you remain distanced from a sexual partner, you are "protected" from the pain of losing love.

If none of this is helping to lessen your fear of professional counseling, the best thing for you to do in the meantime is take a good look at yourself. Maybe doing so will at least help alleviate some of your shame.

This, in turn, might be a step in the direction of untying the internal knot that is preventing you from breaking your pattern on the one hand, and from seeking help on the other.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. For e-mail: ruthie@jpost.co.il ('Dear Ruthie' also appears in* In Jerusalem *and in* City Lights *on Fridays.)

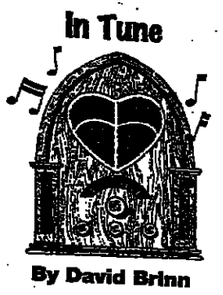
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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

A band for the disenfranchised

In Tune



By David Brinn

Counting Crows took America, and consequently the rest of the world, by storm with its 1994 debut, *August & Everything After*, led by the spooky Dylan/Van Morrison melange of "Mr. Jones."

ACROSS A WIRE – LIVE IN NEW YORK
Counting Crows
(Hed Artzi)

UNIVERSAL
Moa
(NMC)

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Various Artists
(Helicon)



Smart, passionate and spirited, it's no wonder that the band, fronted by the enigmatic Adam Durwitz, was tagged with the moniker "modern rock for people who hate modern rock." Disenfranchised, aging boomers suddenly found a band who loved the values, sound and commitment of the late 1960s. A 1996 follow-up witnessed the band in a holding pattern which forced them into an early career crossroads.

The live, double disc *Across a Wire – Live in New York*, released last year but only surfacing on these shores recently, can therefore been seen either as a gutsy move bordering on the arrogant, or a last-gasp chance to jumpstart the band's career.

Comprised of an acoustic unplugged disc from a 1997 VH1 *Storytellers* session, and an electric in-concert show recorded for MTV's *Live from the 10 Spot*. *Across a Wire* gives ample evidence that Counting Crows is a great live band. The unplugged disc presents the group in various configurations with accordion and mandolin vying with acoustic guitars and piano. Durwitz's tortured vocals, angst-ridden lyrics and expressive twists on melody really shine here on material based primarily from the first two discs.

The band gets its turn to excel on the electric set, where it's able to stretch out on the more rigid recorded arrangements. Whatever reason the band decided to release a live disc now is irrelevant, as the familiar songs are performed with such gusto and conviction that it's almost like hearing them again for the first time.

Like writer Bill Flanagan explains in the liner notes, it may not be logical for a band with only two discs to release a live double set, but one listen to *Across a Wire* will show it makes all the sense in the world.

MAYBE it's that Arctic Circle weather, but the pop artists emerging out of Iceland in the post-Bjork era continue to possess a stubborn streak of individuality. The latest to sound like no other is 25-year-old Reykjavik native Moa on her debut disc *Universal*.

The music is a kaleidoscope of offbeat cabaret, cocktail jazz, hinged by a post-modern drum & bass electronica rhythm. But what makes this more than run-of-the-mill musical anarchy is Moa's husky, yet girlish voice which sounds like a cross between Billie Holiday and Eartha Kitt.

Primary attention has been given to Moa's striking looks (sort of a Nordic Uma Thurman) but her truly continental sound should quickly shift attention to her equally striking music. Bordering on the weird and wacky, Moa definitely beats to a different drum machine.

LOOKING for Love, an all-female 16-song theme compilation by Helicon, tries to have it both ways by presenting hard-hitting visionary artists alongside conventional shmaltzy pop.

In the former category, you can find standout tracks by Skunk Anansie, Sheryl Crow, PJ Harvey and Neneh Cherry, who stake claims for unchartered musical and emotional territory.

But for every successful excursion, there's another musical equivalent of loitering, with the main offenders being Jennifer Paige and Karen Ramirez, who offers the weak title track. Less than sterling tracks by topnotch singer/songwriters like Suzanne Vega and Tanita Tikaram round out this uneven collection, which may have sounded good on paper. It simply doesn't create a cohesive mood, but instead sounds like what it is – wildly disparate styles masquerading under one gender.

And frankly, as a male, I find the concept that women are the only candidates to sing about love as offensive. I look forward to the upcoming male counterpart, *Trolling for Sex*.



Iceland's Moa 'definitely beats to a different drum machine.'

Gershwin survives

JAZZ REVIEW
By BARRY DAVIS

If any proof was needed that jazz is the most cosmopolitan of art forms, it was in ample supply last Thursday when black Brazilian reed player Paulo Moura took the Tel Aviv Cinematheque stage with a septet, and proceeded to play an assortment of pieces composed by a white Jewish American with strong Russian roots.

Paulo Moura Plays Gershwin
Mikki Shaviv and the Blue-Eyed Brotherhood
'Jazz Blues & Videotape'
Tel Aviv Cinematheque
February 25

Right from that most scintillating and emotive of openings – the long lilting musical apotheosis that signals the start of *Rhapsody in Blue* – Moura's clarinet and, later, tenor sax produced nothing but the purest of Jewish colors and tones.

Of course, being Brazilian, a fair amount of bossa nova managed to inveigle its way into some of the octet's interpretations, and sometimes Moura tended to sound more like Stan Getz than Gershwin. But, particularly when violinist Jersy Milavsky and pianist Joe Mores Pontes were on hand, Gershwin's spirit shone through the cultural pastiche with ever-increasing clarity.

THERE are those who claim that, musically, Israelis just can't get to grips with modern American culture – particularly rock and the blues. At least in terms of the latter, that view was peremptorily dispelled by our very own Mikki Shaviv. Admittedly, Shaviv spent 10 years in Canada, but it was an essentially homegrown sabra who produced the most electrifying of blues sounds from his turquoise-colored guitar.

Backed by the pounding, earthy drumming of Re'a Mochi'ach, the sweeping Hammond organ tones of Eyal Klein, and an energetic young reed trio of Mitchell Rodan, Ilan Arad and Udi Chodenovski, Shaviv sped his way through a mix of his own blues compositions, a sound bite or two gleaned from his commercial heyday in the '80s with rock group Tango, and several numbers from the musical folklore of the Deep South.

Proof that Shaviv's status in the local musical fraternity did not suffer during his North American sojourn was provided by an impressive array of local icons, including the likes of Arik Lavi, Gidi Gov and Shmulik Krausz, who made guest appearances. The decibel level may have been a bit hard on the ears but Shaviv's driving guitar playing and full-blooded singing – both in English and Hebrew – were in undeniable view.

Timely Kronos cadences

MUSIC REVIEW
By MICHAEL ALZENSTADT

I have heard the Kronos Quartet several times in concert. I have listened to almost all their numerous discs over the last 25 years. The Kronos experience is more exciting on disc than live. Their concert-hall appearances seem geared to recreating the disc atmosphere. On stage, with their string instruments miked and with lighting and attire more akin to the pop than the classical music world, they sound as though they are emerging from a sound system.

Kronos Quartet
Rishon Lezion Auditorium
February 28

But all that changed in their concert Sunday evening in Rishon Lezion in front of an enthusiastic house. Suddenly Kronos emerged as a mesmerizing musical foursome which engaged the audience from the beginning of their program to its very end.

Whether playing one of their signature pieces, Steve Reich's classic *Different Trains*, or music by contemporary composers from Argentina or Yugoslavia, the musicianship, the utmost sincerity and involvement in the music was more than obvious.

The real excitement came in the program's second half. This part featured 14 short pieces (the longest not over eight minutes), which ranged from the ninth and 14th centuries to compositions written in this decade.

The swift, almost natural move from De Machaut to Part and from Purcell to Schnittke charmed the audience and let it grasp that 14th- and 15th-century music is much closer to contemporary music than the 18th-19th century repertoire.

New cellist Jennifer Culp blends perfectly into the quartet and the only request I do have is to cut the pop lighting and to occasionally play more substantial works as well.

This was an evening to remind us that the musicians of our age have a clear obligation to the music written in their time if they ever want to wean the audience from the classical and romantic periods.

Oscar's big song squabble

By ROBERT W. WELKOS

Two Grammy Award-winning composers are involved in a battle over an Oscar nomination given to the song "When You Believe" from the animated DreamWorks film *The Prince of Egypt*.

The nomination for best original song went to Stephen Schwartz, a past Oscar winner for *Pocahontas* and a well-known composer of such Broadway musicals as *Pippin* and *Godspell*. But now, Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds, who has written songs for top recording stars from Celine Dion to Toni Braxton, thinks the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences snubbed him by not including him in the nomination as well.

Edmonds said in an interview Tuesday that his omission came as a direct result of Schwartz refusing to co-sign an application that would have made Edmonds eligible for an Oscar.

"I'm in a very unfair situation, and I don't think it just happened this way," Edmonds said. "I am not eligible because I think someone purposefully made me ineligible."

The controversy arose because there are two versions of the same song. One version of "When You Believe," recorded by Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey, has climbed the pop charts. While Schwartz wrote the song, Edmonds supplied additional music for that rendition.

But there is also a second version of the song contained in the body of the film that Schwartz wrote alone. It is sung by actress Michelle Pfeiffer and a singer named Sally Dworsky, and even contains a section in Hebrew. This is the song that was nominated for an Oscar.

Houston and Carey have been asked to perform the song at the Oscars telecast on March 21, but academy officials say they won't be singing their hit pop single. Instead, they will be asked to perform a new arrangement of the Pfeiffer-Dworsky song.

"The songs are almost always rearranged for the Oscar show anyway," said Bruce Davis, the academy's executive director.

BUT Tuesday, a publicist for Carey said the two singers expected to perform the Schwartz-Babyface rendition and only that rendition.

Under academy rules, the songwriter – not the studio – is required to submit the Oscar application.

When informed that the academy would have them perform another version, Edmonds replied: "If they are asked to perform a different kind of version, I don't know if they would want to do that. I don't know if Clive Davis (who heads Carey's label, Arista Records) would be interested in that. We do so much to get them to sing that version that to change it now wouldn't be easy."

Edmond's attorney, Peter Lopez of Los Angeles, said that Edmonds is contractually credited with writing 15 percent of the Houston-Carey version of "When You Believe."



Mariah Carey (left) and Whitney Houston recording the disputed 'When You Believe.' (Neil Preston)

Edmonds said he didn't want to speak out about the controversy until friends expressed outrage that the academy would have Houston and Carey perform his version of the song at the Oscars, even though he was not eligible to win.

"I wouldn't want to take that chance away from them," he said, "but I don't think it's right for them to do my version of the song because I am not eligible."

"He was clearly the catalyst for the two singers to come together because of his unique relationship with both of them," Lopez said. "... To have the (academy's) rules dictate that that song cannot be considered for academy consideration is unfathomable."

WHEN the Oscar nominations were announced earlier this month, friends and acquaintances began calling Edmonds from all over the country to congratulate the composer on his nomination.

But what they didn't know was that behind the scenes, Edmonds had tried to get Schwartz to co-sign the application so he could enter the Houston-Carey song but that Schwartz rejected the offer.

"I never saw an application from him," Schwartz told the *Los Angeles Times*. "I got a call asking me about the submission for best song and whether Kenny should be included as one of the writers for the song. We checked the rules. It was clear he was not eligible and that was the end of it. I never had a direct conversation with Kenny on any of it."

Edmonds said he hadn't thought about entering the Oscars until he was prodded by the record company and friends.

"The next thing that was supposed to happen was that Stephen Schwartz was supposed to sign (the application)," Edmonds recalled. "But we started getting information that Stephen Schwartz was not reachable and he wouldn't return any of the calls."

At that point, he asked DreamWorks co-partner Jeffrey Katzenberg to find out what was going on.

Sources told *The Times* that Katzenberg asked the film's producers to persuade Schwartz to include Babyface in the application, but Schwartz flatly refused the request. Katzenberg and DreamWorks realized there was nothing they could do.

Schwartz contends that Babyface is simply not eligible for the Oscar because the award should go to the song that is in the body of the film itself, not a pop version that runs over the end credits.

"Generally, I believe that the song that is nominated is the song that appears in the movie and not the pop version at the end of the soundtrack," Schwartz said in a phone interview this week.

When he and Alan Menken shared an Oscar for best song – "Colors of the Wind" from *Pocahontas* – Schwartz said he had no idea if academy voters were voting for the song sung by Irene Bedard in the film or the hit record by Vanessa Williams that is also on the soundtrack.

Schwartz also contends that academy rules make Babyface ineligible for an Oscar nomination because he is only a partial contributor to the overall song.

"Someone who comes in and interpolates a piece of the song is not eligible," Schwartz said.

Bruce Davis said academy bylaws specifically state that only principal composers who are "responsible for the conception and execution of the work as a whole shall be eligible for an award." (Los Angeles Times)

Just love that other half

THEATER REVIEW
By NAOMI DOUDAI

This is one of Alan Ayckbourn's early (1969) farces, patently contrived and tailored. A web of interlocking triangles, the play features two-timing married couples whose flurry of criss-crossing relationships creates hilarious confusion. The play ranks as light entertainment, but when compared to contemporary treatments of the same sexy theme (e.g. Patrick Marber's *Closer* at Habimah) Ayckbourn's play not only seems slight, it is disastrously dated.

'How the Other Half Loves'
(Eich Ohavim Aherim)
By Alan Ayckbourn
Hebrew: Eli Keinan
Direction: Mitko Buzakov
Sifriya Theater, Ramat Gan
February 24

Nonetheless, it gets off to a dazzling start at the Sifriya with Michaela Lika's elegant set – a show of an intensive and aesthetic use of limited stage space. With that to support them, the competent cast of bright comedy actors maintains the farcical pace with unremitting vitality.

In the pivotal role of the sophisticated Fosters, Idit Tepperson, a poker-faced femme fatale, is the smart but soured wife and Dov Reiser her suffocating bore of a complaisant hubby. Reiser plays the dull-witted and cuckolded spouse with an incremental, though restrained, pathos that converts a mere caricature into a deeply felt, three-dimensional character.

In contrast, the Phillips, a rough-and-ready, randy couple, are played with gusto and verve by the dynamic Irit Caplan and the dimpled, virile dandy Oded Leopold. Though endlessly entertaining and expressive in body language, their presentation lacks clear diction.

Anat Zamshteigman and Dani Geva fill the less rewarding roles of the third couple, the prim and proper Featherstones. As the balancing act in an indecorous domestic drama, they contrive with calculated cool to splash cold water on the overheated situations.

The Bolshoi Academy disappoints

DANCE REVIEW
By GIA KARIAN

Bolshoi Academy of Dance and Bolshoi soloists
Mann Auditorium
February 21

The Bolshoi Ballet is long past its prime, but its lingering reputation still draws capacity crowds. Considering that, perhaps one shouldn't be surprised that the young students (nine to 17) of the Bolshoi Academy were the main course of the evening.

Yes, there are talented children in Russia; of those who performed, some show promise and some lucky few show obvious talent. Still, the academy's performance was disappointing.

Nowadays, we take for granted that one can find good classical ballet training for young dancers everywhere. The Bolshoi Academy's performance lags far behind similar public evenings with the young students of the Kirov Ballet school and certainly the Paris Opera's.

Since it was impossible for the young ones to "sell" proper classical repertoire, the better part of the program included several divertissements of folkloric nature which they performed charmingly, and the Ukrainian dance, the Hungarian dance, the Tarantella etc.

But of course, one doesn't go to an evening of ballet to see the next generation of Moiseyev's dancers. When they challenged the favorite four-cygnets segment from *Swan Lake*, their unison dance was perfectly regimented but looked more like a drill than a dance that is conceived as a pearl of perfection.

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Today's shekel



In brief

Forex indexed savings up slightly in '98

The public's foreign-currency indexed financial instruments rose last year from 10.8 percent to 12.7% of an average financial assets portfolio, the Bank of Israel reported yesterday. The remaining components were 25% in unindexed instruments, 46.2% in inflation indexed instruments, and 16.1% in stocks. Overall assets rose just over 13%, while last year's inflation rate reached 8.6%, totaling NIS 827.18 billion as opposed to the previous year's NIS 731b.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Bank of Israel completes transition to euro

The transition of Bank of Israel activities to the new European currency, the euro, was smooth, Bank of Israel Foreign Currency Department head Sylvia Piterman told *Europe in Israel*, the newsletter of the European Commission to Israel delegation. She added that the central bank faced some difficulties at the beginning primarily with the European payment system, but they were settled satisfactorily.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Canada, Israel seek trade-pact expansion

Canada's International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky last week agreed to launch talks on the expansion of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement, both parties said. Marchi completed a a regional tour which included Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Palestinian Authority.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Discount Bank completes restructuring plan

Israel Discount Band started operating yesterday according to a new restructuring plan. Under the new structure, the bank will be divided into four branches: a business division, which will supply services to large and medium-sized companies; a banking division, which will supply retail banking services; a financial division, which will supervise financial activities and risk management; and an operation and information division, which will concentrate all computer activities.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Foxcom Wireless raises $4.25m.

Foxcom Wireless, a developer of fiberoptic communications, raised $4.25 million from a group of investors led by Apax-Leumi, the venture capital fund announced yesterday. Investors in the company include venture capital funds Genesis and Israel Seed Partners. Foxcom Wireless was established last year as a result of a spin-off from affiliate Foxcom, which develops fiberoptic antenna products for the satellite communications, cellular, and wireless markets. The Lod-based company develops fiberoptic based communication solutions serving the wireless industry. The company said that it will use the money to expand its activity as it intends to enter the European and US markets. Apax last year raised $4m. for Foxcom.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Israeli firm buys stake in Greek casino group

Resido P.L.B.I., an Israeli holding company, announced yesterday that it has acquired, together with a German company, a 60% stake in the new Playboy Casino in Rhodes, Greece, for $22 million. The company, which already operates one casino in Greece, will run the casino together with US-based Playboy. The company said it expects annual revenues of some $70m. and net income of about $28m. The casino is part of a complex which includes a hotel, restaurant, and night club.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Kuwait mulls wage cuts due to oil glut

KUWAIT – The government may have to consider cutting the salaries of civil servants to reduce spending because of weak oil prices, *Al-Anba* daily reported Saturday.

The newspaper quoted a Planning Ministry study as saying allocations for salaries have been growing at about 5% a year. In the fiscal year that ended in June 1998, about 1.28 billion dinars ($4.23 billion) were paid to 132,791 government employees, according to the study.

Oil revenues for that year were 2.55 billion dinars. The decades-old oil-boom policy which guaranteed jobs for all citizens, most in the government, has produced a public sector with too many unproductive employees, the study said.

Still, any effort to reduce the salaries of civil servants would face strong opposition in the National Assembly, whose members believe the government should economize by eliminating corruption and buying fewer weapons.

Kuwait, which depends on oil for more than 90% of its state revenues, is selling crude at about $8 a barrel, down from $17 less than two years ago. It anticipates a budget deficit of more than 2 billion dinars for the current fiscal year.

AP

Nov.-Jan. industrial exports soar 5%

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Industrial exports soared by 5 percent–6% during the period of November-January, after a 2% increase during the previous month and a few negative-growth months prior to that, the Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday.

The data came along with a host of new statistics which add up to what may ultimately prove to have indicated the beginning of the end of the last three years' economic slowdown.

In December, overall industrial production rose by an annualized 4%–5%; at the same time, the CBS has been detecting a steady increase in factories' raw-material orders and machinery and equipment imports.

In January, raw material imports, excluding fuel, rose 3% after consecutive declines over the previous 10 months. Production in the plastics, chemistry, food, and construction-input industries rose 6%–7% while production in the electricity, electronics, and heavy industries rose 3%–4%.

The number of average weekly work hours accumulated by Israeli, Palestinian, and foreign workers rose 2% during the fourth quarter, after seasonal adjustments.

Revenues in the retail industry rose 4% during December, following 3% and 2% increases during the October-November and July-September periods respectively.

The pace of sales growth in the large retail chains, whose sales total a quarter of their entire industry, reached 8%–9% during the September-January period.

The number of Israelis' hotel stays rose 21% in January, after jumping by 23% and 22% during the previous two months respectively.

The number of incoming tourists, however, remained static during the December-January period, after rising in each of the previous months beginning in March.

Import of unpolished diamonds rose during the January-February period by 43% in comparison with the same period last year, though polished diamond exports plunged 11% last month to $284 million, the Trade and Industry Ministry yesterday reported.

Meanwhile, the Treasury reported yesterday that the government posted a NIS 1.247 billion budget deficit in February, excluding credit extension. After subtracting the previous month's budget surplus, the government has so far accumulated a NIS 857 million deficit in fiscal 1999.

The government's activity was financed last month primarily by raising NIS 813 million abroad, NIS 545m. locally, a total of NIS 226m. in asset sales.

Gov't raised NIS 12b. in capital last year

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The government raised a total of NIS 12 billion last year in local and overseas activity, a 7.14 percent increase on the previous year's NIS 11.2b., the Bank of Israel yesterday said.

Of this sum NIS 5.1b. came from asset sales, an additional NIS 4.5b. from local bond sales, and NIS 2.4b. were earned through foreign bond sales.

In all, the government raised more capital than would be necessary to compensate for last year's budget deficit, which ended up at NIS 7.2b., including credit granting.

The central bank indirectly criticized the government for raising more capital than was required for covering the deficit, since issuing bonds – like any lending – comes at a cost, namely debt service, which must be kept to a minimum.

Meanwhile, the central bank reported that Israel's foreign currency reserves declined in February by $469 million to $22.16 billion.

The bank attributed the decline to the government's overseas expenditures and to the dollar's appreciation in global currency markets. A more expensive dollar diminishes Israel's forex reserves balance since those are always quoted in dollar terms.

Against the shekel the dollar depreciated last month 1.36% to NIS 4.047 after peaking earlier in February at NIS 4.0925.

In all, the shekel has gained 2.72% on the dollar since the beginning of the year, as last year's sharp depreciation was stemmed and even reversed, in the aftermath of the Bank of Israel's aggregate 4% increase in interest rates in October.

The shekel at one point in October plunged to an all-time low of NIS 4.354 to the dollar, as some short-term market players fled a host of emerging markets in response to Russia's debt-default announcement.



Frenkel's fifth

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel (right) and Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit embrace yesterday before their first working session since the latter's appointment last week. Sheetrit is the fifth finance minister (not counting Binyamin Netanyahu who filled the job for three months following Yaakov Neeman's resignation) with whom Frenkel will be working since his appointment in 1991 by the late Yitzhak Moda'i. Before entering the meeting, Frenkel said further interest rate cuts may come if inflation continues to decline. The two did not disclose details about the meeting. (Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)

Report: Dual listings with NY to expand TASE turnover by 20%

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The approval of the Brodet Committee's recommendations, to allow simultaneous listing on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange of Israeli company shares currently trading on Wall Street only, would lead to an increase of at least 20 percent in the average daily turnover, according to a report published yesterday by the TASE.

Shares of some 70 Israeli companies are currently traded only in the US. The Brodet Committee recommended in September 1998 that measures be taken to ease the requirements for 'dual listing' which would allow trading in these shares also on the TASE.

Ronit Harel Ben-Zeev, vice president of the Economic Department at the TASE, said many local investors who currently trade in Israeli shares abroad would prefer to trade on the TASE because of the time difference between Tel Aviv and New York and as commissions on the TASE are lower than on Wall Street.

The TASE, which is very much in favor of dual listing, has already reached the final stages of obtaining recognition as a designated offshore securities market for the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The report shows that the average daily volume in Israeli shares traded in New York amounted last year to $55 million, compared with only $62m. in all of the shares listed on the TASE.

In addition, total turnover in the 21 stocks which are traded both on the TASE and abroad reached 42% of the total trading volume in these shares last year compared with only 28% in 1997.

The main reason for the rise in activity was the decline in trading in New York in the shares of Teva Pharmaceutical Industries and Nice Systems, which represent some 80% of the trading volume in all dual listed shares.

Trading volume on the TASE in Teva and Nice rose dramatically from 12% in 1997 to 20% and 25% respectively.

According to the report, activity in the majority of shares which are listed both here and abroad continues to concentrate at the TASE.

It is interesting to note, however, that trading in the 21 stocks, which are also listed on Wall Street or London, represents some 20% of total trading on the TASE.

In addition, these companies also represent 19% of the market capitalization of the local bourse.

Trinity confirms £959m. Mirror Group bid

By DANIEL TILLES

LONDON (Bloomberg) – Trinity Plc, the UK's No. 1 regional newspaper publisher, said it wants to acquire Mirror Group Plc, the UK's No. 3 newspaper publisher, in a bid valued at £959 million in cash and stock.

Trinity, which publishes the *Liverpool Echo* and *Crawley News*, said it plans to offer 0.35 share and 40 pence in cash, or 210 pence for each Mirror share. The offer represents an 8.2 percent premium over Mirror's closing share price Friday of 194p.

Trinity broke off merger talks with Mirror, which publishes the *Daily Mirror* and *Sunday Mirror* national tabloids, on January 10 over the future role of David Montgomery, Mirror's chief executive.

His resignation two weeks later, however, sparked speculation Trinity would reconsider a bid.

"Discussions with Mirror are continuing," Trinity said.

The stronger business that would result from a merger would greatly benefit shareholders, a Trinity spokesman said.

Trinity shares closed unchanged at 486 pence Friday.

Regional Independent Media, a second regional UK publisher whose £913 million cash bid for Mirror was rejected last month, is also considering an offer for Mirror.

A RIM bid of about £1 billion could also come this week, *Sunday Business* reported without citing sources.

Sources close to RIM, however, said it's unlikely an offer will be made this week, saying the company will probably wait for government antitrust clearance before making any formal bid.

A bid by either RIM or Trinity would have to be approved by the UK Mergers and Monopolies Commission, which could take three months or longer.

Will the Russian public ever trust the banking system again?

MOSCOW (Reuters) – A lifeless cash machine covered with a grubby plastic sheet and gathering dust in the entrance to a metro station is a fitting symbol of the current state of Russia's bank system.

Six months after Russia was plunged into crisis, a solution to the long-term rebuilding of the bank system and a clear plan on how to reinstill peoples' confidence seems painfully far off.

Analysts criticize the central bank for moving too slowly and worry that banks are pursuing their own reconstruction plans that may damage creditors' and depositors' interests.

Amid the mess, the prospect of a vibrant and trustworthy bank system that keeps the lifeblood of the economy flowing, guarantees that people can save with little risk and helps credit business, seems as far away as ever.

"I do not personally see a lot of rhyme or reason to the measures that I see being conducted currently," said Margot Jacobs, banking analyst at United Financial Group (UFG).

"They need to commit themselves to closing more banks and more big banks and there needs to be a more transparent strategy for how they are going to do that," she added.

The concrete steps the central bank has taken so far include the launch of an agency called ARKO to restructure banks with state help and giving credits to overcome liquidity problems.

It managed to get the payment and settlement system back into motion and backed the transfer of individual deposits from leading troubled banks to state-owned Sberbank.

It also announced it would rank banks in four categories depending on the extent of their problems and ability to survive.

However, little more has been said since the plan was announced and few concrete strategy details outlined.

"Banks are drifting in a nether world and everything good is taken from them," said Kim Isakyan, analyst at MFK Renaissance.

"There is a middle ground in that you don't close everything down now but they have to be a lot firmer. They (the central bank) are so soft you can't feel it," he said.

The central bank, however, is struggling in an environment where it lacks the legal teeth to take tough action as there are no specific regulations governing the bankruptcy of banks.

It lacks qualified personnel to deal with the scale of the crisis and does not have enough of another key commodity – money.

Estimates of how much it will cost to bring the bank system back to life vary from two billion dollars to $20 billion.

"My guess is that with an unscientific sample extrapolated, you have a $10-$20b. problem in terms of clearing it up," said Tom Kelley, a managing partner at accountants Arthur Andersen, adding that this assumed all liabilities were met.

He said given a clear strategy, the right banking rules and international help, the central bank could clear up the mess. He cited the example of the US, where 750 banks were cleaned up over two years in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), itself burnt by the bank crisis as equity investments in banks have had to be written off, has said it would support a restructuring plan that was clear and transparent.

But as time slips by, banks are shedding old skins and taking on new ones.

Several top banks are choosing this route.

NEW MARKETS

By PATRICK LANNIN

Retail bank SBS-Agro is metamorphosing into Soyuz (Union) while Rossiisky Kredit is to merge with the small Impeksbank.

Menatep has shifted some business to its St Petersburg arm, a legally separate bank, while troubled Uneximbank is to rebuild itself on the basis of a new bank, Rosbank.

The banks have said they are not trying to escape creditors by these moves but analysts expressed worries.

"The risk for creditors is growing because new banks are being formed alongside the old banks," said bank analyst Andrei Ivanov.

"There is a feeling that the central bank has not expressed its opinion as to whether it supports this process and to what extent the process is being controlled by the central bank," he said.

He also spoke of the moral hazard of managers of banks which are bust to stay in the system and open new institutions.

Kelley at Arthur Andersen said the bad bank/good bank process of getting out of trouble was standard in other economies but it was unclear in Russia how it would work out.

OTZAR HITYASHVUT HAYEHUDIM B.M. – NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF ORDINARY STOCK

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Annual General Meeting of the Company, which is the forty third Ordinary General Meeting of the Company, will be held at the Z.O.A. House Auditorium at 1 Daniel Frish Street, Tel Aviv, on Tuesday, March 23, 1999, at 10:00 a.m.

On the Agenda

1. Approving the Financial Statements and Reports of the Directors and Auditors for the year ending December 31, 1997.
2. Election of Directors.
3. Approving Director's fees and attendance fees until the end of 1999, in accordance with Company Ordinance.
4. Approval of the midterm dividend as a final dividend for 1997 in the amount of NIS 15,072.
5. Appointing Auditors and determining their re-nomination.
6. Renewal of Directors and Officers Liability Insurance Policy for an additional year.
7. Transaction of any other business of the Company required to be dealt with at this meeting.

The financial statements for the year ending December 31, 1997 can be obtained at the company's office: 17 Kaplan St., Tel Aviv, from Sunday–Thursday between the hours of 9 a.m. till 2 p.m.

By order of the Board, Amnon Argaman, CPA Company Secretary

To be effective, proxies must reach the company secretary office at least 24 hours before the meeting. In case of a corporation, the proxy must be under the common seal and signed by authorized persons or by an attorney duly authorized.
The signed proxies should be sent to Amnon Argaman, CPA, 7 Abba Hillel, Ramat Gan 52522, Israel. If a quorum is not present within half an hour of the designated time of the General Meeting or of a Meeting which is the result of a postponed one, the General Meeting will be further postponed to a time and place agreed upon by the Council.
The Chairman, with the agreement of the General Meeting in which a quorum is present, has the right to change the time and place of the meeting. It will not be necessary to give prior notice of the postponement or details of the matters dealt with at the postponed meeting. At the postponed meeting, it is forbidden to deal with any matters other than those which would have been dealt with at the original meeting.

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TASE at 7-week high • Euro under $1.1

SHARES

TEL AVIV

Israel's benchmark stock index rose to a seven-week high yesterday, led by Discount Investment Corp. after Cellcom Israel reported that fourth-quarter profit surged 45 percent.

The Maof Index of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange's 25 largest companies rose 1.42% to 321.85, its highest since January 6, after dropping 0.90% to 317.35 on Sunday.

Discount Investment Corp. rose 2.9% to NIS 127.70. The holding company which owns part of Cellcom Israel, a supplier of mobile phone services, said fourth-quarter net income surged 45% to NIS 77 million as sales rose 31% to NIS 764m. For 1998, Cellcom revenue rose 18% to NIS 2.77 billion shekels. Cellcom Chief Executive Ya'acov Perry said subscriber numbers grew to 1.1 million in 1998. The company is planning to sell shares in the US this year, local papers have reported.

Bank Hapoalim rose 2.03% to 8.04. Bank Hapoalim is in talks to sell stakes in two of its investment companies, Ampal-American Israel Corp. and Poalim Investments.

Israel Discount Bank rose 1.42% to 3.58 and is expected to finish the year with a profit partly because of its New York office, which reportedly boosted net income 62% to $38m. in 1998. The government is offering as much as 53% of Discount Bank in a private sale to two investor groups.

Nice Systems rose 3% to 122.20. The maker of digital monitoring systems for call centers said its NiceLog system will be installed in Citibank's call center and financial dealing room in Hong Kong.

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries rose 1.1% to 165.90. Israel's largest drugmaker was reiterated "market perform" at Goldman Sachs. Elbit Medical Imaging rose 2.13% to 43.40, rebounding from an 11.6% drop Sunday. Elron Electronic Industries agreed to sell all of its 37.3% holding in Elbit Medical to real estate holding company Europe Israel Ltd. for $145m., or $16.9 a share.

EUROPE

The UK's FTSE 100 index dropped for the third session in a row amid growing uncertainty over the direction of UK and US interest rates. The FTSE 100 closed at 6060.9 points, down 114.2 or 1.85 percent.

Germany's benchmark Xetra DAX index fell well over two percent yesterday and traders said recent mixed company earnings and concerns of an interest rate rise in the United States suggested the market would stay flat. The DAX-30 index closed at 4784.31 points, down 127.5 or 2.60 percent. In later screen-based trade the Xetra DAX index ended at 4779.07 points, down 124.89 or 2.55 percent.

Paris stocks close down 1.49 percent, as more strong US data pressured T-bonds and the Dow amid fears of a rise in interest rates. Paris traders say the CAC was also weakened by diminishing hopes of a European rate cut following comments by ECB head Wim Duisenberg. The CAC-40 index closed at 4032.05 points, down 60.89 or 1.49 percent.

Swiss shares closed more than one percent lower, extending earlier losses following a weaker Wall Street opening.

The Swiss market index closed at 6995 points, down 68.8 or 0.97 percent.

Milan bourse indices ended in negative ground but off lows amid general gloom in European markets and on Wall Street after more strong US data. The All Share Mibtel index closed at 23809 points, down 190 or 0.79 percent.

Dutch shares ended down as a weak opening on Wall Street compounded European weakness. Financials also fell more than the index average. The AEX index closed at 527.31 points, down 8.81 or 1.64 percent.

ASIA

Hong Kong stocks rose a second day. Henderson Land Development Co. led gains by developers on stronger-than-expected apartment sales. Chinese investment companies gained on hopes they'll win Beijing's support to help repay debts.

The Hang Seng Index rose 161.97, or 1.6%, 10,020.46, a six-week high. Its five-day gain of 8.6% was the largest among the world's major indexes. Henderson Land, Cheung Kong Holdings Ltd. and Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd., the city's three biggest developers, accounted for a third of the index's gain.

"The response to Henderson's apartment sales was pretty good," said Vincent Koo, senior fund manager at Sun Hung Kai Fund Management Ltd., which manages about $200m. in the region. "It's positive that developers can sell their inventory and relieve pressure on their cash flow." In other markets, Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average fell 1.0%, led by Nikon Corp., which makes chip-related equipment, on concern that sales of computer parts to US companies may slow. India's Mumbai Stock Exchange Sensitive Index rose 3.7% after the government announced incentives to buy shares and mutual fund units in its budget. Malaysia's Kuala Lumpur Composite Index fell 2.0%, led by banks on concern their profits will be decimated by provisions for bad debts.

Hong Kong developers rose after Henderson Land said it sold more than 1,100 units at its Parkland Villas project in the New Territories, showing signs of increased demand for apartments.

Property prices fell by more than 50% between mid-1997 and October last year.

WALL STREET

Investors swapped technology shares for those of financial and manufacturing concerns yesterday, propelling the Dow Jones industrials out of a morning loss but leaving the broader indexes nearly flat.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 18.20 points at 9,324.78, after erasing an 83.40-point loss that was tied to an increase in interest rates.

While investors continued last week's strategy of jettisoning of technology issues, they picked more aggressively yesterday at the shares of large financial and smokestack companies.

"We're in a tug-of-war between those who think the market is overvalued, and bargain hunters who want to buy it at every dip," said Ricky Harrington, a technical analyst at Interstate/Johnson Lane in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Dow was led higher by Caterpillar, up 3 5/8 at 49 3/16 and Citigroup, up 2 1/2 at 61 1/4.

Financial stocks benefited as long-term interest rates rose faster than short-term rates, lowering financial companies' cost of funds while at the same time raising lending rates.

The Commerce Department reported that Americans' personal incomes increased a robust 0.6 percent in January. The report suggested that Americans entered 1999 with enough spending power to keep the economic expansion going. Spending rose moderately, up 0.3 percent, suggesting that Americans might be saving a little more and be willing to put them into mutual funds. But in the bond market, both reports prolonged last week's worry that the economy is growing fast enough to spark inflation, and could prompt the Federal Reserve to tighten short-term interest rates.

The 30-year Treasury bond was down 1 5/8, pushing its yield up to 5.67 percent from 5.57 percent late Friday.

The Standard and Poor's 500 index fell 2.17 at 1,236.16, but the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index rose 7.15 to 2,295.18.

Declining issues outnumbered advancers by an 8-to-7 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,410 up, 1,608 down and 538 unchanged.

The NYSE composite index fell 1.03 to 585.43, and the American Stock Exchange composite index was unchanged at 698.29. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 2.13 to 394.39.



Maof 321.85 ▲ 1.42%

Dow Jones 9324.7 ▲ 0.20%

FTSE 6060.9 ▼ 1.85%

Nikkei 14221.75 ▼ 1.01%

CURRENCIES

The dollar rose against the euro and was little changed against the yen, ahead of economic reports that economists expect will signal US economic growth continues to outstrip that of Europe and Japan.

"Dollar-strength is still the name of the game," said Klaus Kusber, a currency strategist at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson in Frankfurt. "The dollar is strongest because the US economy is the strongest." The euro fell to $1.0987 from $1.1015 and is down 5.8% so far this year against the dollar. The dollar was little changed at 119.15 yen from 119.09 in London late Friday.

The yen has fallen 4.6% this year.

A report yesterday was likely to show US manufacturing improved in February. The National Association of Purchasing Management index, which measures manufacturing orders, production and other activities, was expected to increase to 49.7 from 49.5 in January, according to economists surveyed by Bloomberg News. A reading below 50 suggests manufacturing is contracting. The NAPM index has hovered below 50 since June.

The US said Friday the economy grew at the fastest pace in more than two years during the final three months of 1998, expanding at a 6.1% annual rate in the fourth quarter. The euro 11 economies, meantime, face sluggish growth.

COMMODITIES

METALS

Gold traded sideways during early European trade yesterday while silver prices moved nervously in response to choppy lease rates, dealers said.

Gold's brief fall towards $285.00 a troy ounce late on Friday reversed towards the New York close, leaving the metal with little direction yesterday.

London gold fixed at $287.05 a troy ounce in the morning, unchanged from Friday afternoon.

"There's some two-way business in gold and silver," said one London dealer, who added that Australian miners had sold forward as locally priced gold rose above A$460.00.

Dealers and analysts predicted little reaction to India's planned gold deposit scheme as announced in Saturday's budget.

Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha proposed the scheme to mobilise idle gold in the country, telling a New Delhi business seminar yesterday that the government had deliberately not included amnesty cover in the plan.

ENERGY

Crude oil for April delivery opened 15 cents higher from $12.27 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after Iraq said a US air strike damaged a pumping station on a pipeline to Turkey that carries about 1 million barrels per day of export oil. Turkey's state-owned oil company, Botas, confirmed that Iraqi oil output to the Ceyhan port was cut off last night, the official Anadolu news service reported. Botas blamed the interruption on a malfunction at a power generation station along the pipeline, though it wasn't clear from the report if the air strikes were the cause of the malfunction. Iraq's January output was 2.37 million barrels a day. A US Department of Defense official questioned the reports, saying oil installations weren't the target of strikes. Crude oil for April delivery was up 11 cents at $12.38 a barrel in electronic trading.

(News agencies)

DILBERT
By Scott Adams



US bond investors reeling from worst month in 19 years

MARKETWATCH
By BETH WILLIAMS

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) – The worst month for Treasury securities in 19 years has only whetted the appetite of some investors.

"It's often the case that the days that feel the worst are the best days to buy," said Richard Schwartz, who manages $23 billion at New York Life Asset Management in Parsippany, New Jersey and bought Treasuries late Thursday, after three days of losses drove 30-year yields to a six-month high. He predicts bonds will rebound in the months ahead as inflation stays tame.

Yet even after Saturday's gain, Treasuries maturing in two to 30 years posted the biggest monthly losses since February 1980, according to an index compiled by Ryan Labs Inc., a research firm. At that time, the rate of inflation was above 14 percent and the Federal Reserve, under Paul Volcker, was jacking up interest rates.

This time, bonds tumbled as reports on everything from housing to help-wanted ads indicated the economic slowdown analysts have been predicting for months isn't about to appear.

The economy's strength snuffed hopes for another Fed rate cut, and prompted concern the central bank may boost rates.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan added to the bond market's woes when, in semi-annual testimony to Congress last week, he said the central bank has to evaluate whether its three interest-rate cuts last year remain "appropriate" now that stability has returned to world financial markets.

"Sentiment has been shifting," said Martin Jones, who oversees $3.5 billion of taxable bonds at First American Asset Management in Minneapolis.

On Wednesday, the Treasury met with the weakest demand in 16 years at an auction of two-year notes.

"It was a one-way trade," said Dave Connors, head of government bond trading at Credit Suisse First Boston Corp. "We were trying to sell into a market that didn't want the paper." With the recent declines, the market value of the Treasury's current benchmark notes and bonds has fallen $1 billion from the prices at which they were sold earlier this month. The securities they replaced as benchmarks lost $2 billion in February.

Bond yields are now at levels not seen since before Russia's August debt default upset financial markets and sent investors rushing to Treasury securities as a refuge. US 30- year yields, at 5.58 percent, have climbed almost 0.90 percentage point from a 31-year low of 4.69 percent reached October 5. Yields rose to levels some investors couldn't pass up.

David Kotok, a partner at Cumberland Advisors, an asset management firm in Vineland, New Jersey, used the rout as an opportunity to buy zero-coupon Treasuries maturing in 18 to 20 years Thursday.

"It's a remarkable time to be a buyer of bonds," Kotok said. Zeros – which sell at a discount to face value and pay no interest until maturity – represent a bullish bet, because their price is the most sensitive to changes in interest rates.

Kotok's buying now because inflation is almost non-existent, meaning bonds will hold more of their value. He predicts inflation will stay low as the economy slows, and expects yields to fall a percentage point before the end of the year.

A full point drop would mean fat returns for investors who buy bonds now. A decline in 30-year yields to 4.65 percent by the end of 1999 would translate into returns of more than 20 percent for investors who bought the bonds at Thursday's lows, according to Bloomberg analytics.

Other investors, just as optimistic as Kotok, aren't quite ready to take the plunge.

"We very much are going to use this time to buy — the question is when and at what level," said Don Ross, who oversees $23 billion as chief investment officer at National City Asset Management in Cleveland. "You have to buy when there's blood in the streets. If this isn't blood I don't know what it is."

Overseas investors may also be tempted by the higher yields available on Treasuries. At 5.29 percent, 10-year Treasury notes now yield 126 basis points more than 10-year German notes, up from 101 basis points four weeks ago. US 10-year notes yield 340 basis points more than the benchmark No. 203 Japanese bond, up from 248 basis points on February 3.

Analysts said the Treasury market's swoon may not be over, especially because reports next week are expected to show healthy job gains in February and an improvement in manufacturing. "It's way too soon to say that because of yesterday's rebound we're out of the woods," said Anthony Karydakis, an economist at First Chicago Capital Markets.

Even buyers like Schwartz at New York Life are hedging their bets. While he said he'd continue to purchase Treasuries should they weaken further, he took advantage of Saturday's gains to sell some of the securities he bought Thursday.

"I have a profit," Schwartz said. "I'm happy."

FINANCIAL MARKETS

TEL AVIV 100
LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Advanced Technology Ltd	1830.0	-1.0
Africa Israel Hotels	537.0	0.0
Africa Israel Inv (1985)	19600.0	2.6
Africa Israel Inv (1985)	179500.0	1.8
Agis Industries (1983) Ltd	1998.0	-0.1
American Israeli Paper Mills	15400.0	0.3
Azorim Properties	730.0	0.0
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	3190.0	3.6
Bezeq	1424.0	0.4
Blue Square Chain Investments and Properties Limited	5360.0	2.3
Baran	3530.0	0.9
Dead SEA Bromine	2650.0	0.4
Bayside Land Corp.	45300.0	-0.4
Bayside Land Corp.	213000.0	3.0
Israel Chemicals Limited	417.0	2.0
Clal Electronics Inds Ltd	53100.0	0.8
Clal Israel Limited	6300.0	0.7
Clal Industries and Investments	1946.0	0.7
Clal Insurance	3550.0	2.9
DAN Hotels Corp. Ltd	650.0	2.4
Delta-Galil Industries Ltd	3920.0	3.4
Discount Investment Corp.	12770.0	2.9
Dankner	2080.0	3.5
Delek Automotive Systems Ltd	831.0	0.7
Delek Israel Fuel Corp. Ltd	11290.0	5.8
Discount Mortgage Bank Ltd	18270.0	1.5
Dardon	560.0	0.0
Israel Discount Bank	358.0	1.4
Dead SEA Works Limited	344.0	1.0
JEC	1545.0	1.5
Elbit Ltd	1535.0	1.1
Elco Holdings Limited	2100.0	0.0
Elite Industries Ltd	2230.0	0.3
Elite Industries Ltd	14210.0	1.5
Electra Consumer Products	2300.0	-1.4
Elco Industries Ltd	3450.0	0.0
Elron Electronic Inds	7110.0	2.2
El-Rov (Israel) Ltd	1703.0	-0.4
Electra (Israel) Ltd	18000.0	0.7
Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd	4310.0	2.1
Elbit Systems Ltd	5510.0	0.7
Europe Israel	3010.0	-2.9
Fib Holdings Ltd	2510.0	2.1
First International Mortgage Bank Limited	32300.0	4.1
Formula Systems (1985) Ltd	10250.0	2.0
First International Bank Of Israel	420.0	1.7
First International Bank Of Israel	2080.0	2.5
Israel General Bank	6300.0	2.3
Granite Hacarmel Investments	475.0	-1.0
Hamlet (Israel-Canada) Limited	1360.0	0.0
Hadarim Propert	7690.0	0.0
Harel Insurance Investments Limited	3280.0	0.0
Harel Insurance Investments Limited	1594.0	0.3
Home Centers (Diy) Ltd	3710.0	-1.3
Housing & Construction Holdings Limited	257.0	1.5
Industrial Buildings Corp.	499.0	-0.8
IDB Development Corp. Ltd	3220.0	1.4
IDB Bank Holding Corp Ltd	5970.0	1.8
The Israel Corp. Limited	37700.0	1.3
The Israel Land Development	21900.0	3.4
[illegible] Ltd	625.0	-0.8
[illegible]	550.0	0.5
[illegible] Consolidated	410.0	2.2
[illegible]	4290.0	0.0
Koor Industries Limited	32000.0	1.6
Leumi Mortgage Bank Ltd	58270.0	0.0
[illegible]	2890.0	1.4
Leumi Insurance Holdings	228.0	1.3
Bank Leumi Le-Israel	509.0	1.3
Machteshim-Agan Industries Limited	5870.0	2.2
Ma'ariv Holdings Ltd	7180.0	9.3
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	[illegible]	[illegible]

	LAST	CHANGE*
Mehadrin Ltd.	12100.0	2.8
Mayanot Eden	1540.0	0.0
Mishkan Hapoalim Mortgage Bk	64300.0	2.1
Mellisron	1085.0	1.4
Maman Cargo Terminals & Hand	502.0	0.0
Menorah Holdings Ltd.	1658.0	1.8
United Mizrahi Bank Ltd.	745.0	1.8
Nice Systems Ltd.	12220.0	3.0
Nitsba Holdings (1995) Limited	1475.0	0.0
Ofer Development & Investments Limited	1197.0	3.8
Ozar Hityashvuth Hayehudim	28.3	-0.7
Ormat Industries	486.0	1.5
Osem Investment Limited	1800.0	0.2
Israel Phoenix Assurance Co.	856.0	8.4
Plasson	4630.0	1.3
Poalim Investments Limited	11950.0	0.6
Point of Sale Limited	3050.0	0.0
Bank Hapoalim Ltd	804.0	2.0
Property & Building Corp	32000.0	0.6
Israel Petrochemical Enterpr	2070.0	0.0
Israel Salt Industries	1770.0	0.1
Solel Boneh Building & Infrastructure Ltd.	3540.0	-2.5
Super-Sol Limited	1044.0	1.4
Teva Pharmaceutical	16590.0	1.1
Tefahot Israel Mortgage Bank	185000.0	0.0
Tambour Ltd.	534.0	1.7
Tempo	1511.0	-2.5
Ytong Industries	930.0	3.3
A.M.I.D. Limited	894.0	-0.3
Abjac Mazal	1.6	0.0

RETZEF
SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Abudi Signs Industry Ltd.		—
Ackerstein Industries	405.0	0.0
Ackerstein ZVI	1599.0	8.8
Ackerstein ZVI	8000.0	0.0
Adgar Investment and Development Limited	206.0	0.5
Adgar Investment and Development Limited	37.5	4.2
Adaha Developing Investments & Promotion Ltd	120.0	0.0
Adumim Chemicals Ltd.	310.0	0.0
Advantech Holdings Ltd.	64.3	-9.9
Alcon Control and Automation Limited	170.0	0.0
Alcon Control and Automation Limited	637.0	-3.0
Atek	219.0	-0.9
Africa Israel Hotels	74.9	7.0
AFSK	974.0	0.0
Ages Industries (1983) Ltd.	225.0	0.0
Agri Invest Ltd.	430.0	0.0
Albad Massuot Yitzhak Limited	2200.0	-3.5
Albany Bonded Limited	49.8	0.0
Al-Ben Property & Investment	149.9	0.0
Alliance Tire Co. (1992) Ltd.	551.0	0.0
Aloni Hetz Properties & Inv.	490.0	2.3
Aloni Hetz Properties & Inv.	111.6	-2.1
Alumayer Ltd.	280.0	8.4
Alumil Packaging Ltd.	2100.0	0.0
Amanet Management & Systems	730.0	2.8
Amiger	209.0	0.0
Analyst I.M.S.	825.0	3.1
Appicom	2310.0	0.0
Arad	1250.0	0.0
Arad Towels	1390.0	6.9
Arazim Financial Services & Investment Limited	140.0	0.0
Argaman Industries	127.0	0.0
Arledan Properties Ltd.	1241.0	-9.7
Arpal Aluminum Systems Limited	135.0	0.0
Arel Industries Ltd.	131.0	2.1
Ashkelon Plywood	514.0	0.0
Ashtad	486.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Ashot-Ashkelon Industries Limited	288.0	8.5
Ashtrom Industries Ltd.	550.0	0.0
Ashtrom Projects	286.0	10.0
Ashtrom Projects	30.0	36.4
Ashtrom Properties	175.0	2.9
Ashtrom Properties	10.0	-25.4
Aspen Building & Development Ltd.	449.0	0.0
Aspen Properties (1990) Limited	136.6	0.0
Aspen Real Estate Ltd.	310.0	0.0
Atlon	82.0	7.9
Atmor Industries (1973) Ltd.	1101.0	3.7
ATX Export Ltd.	172.0	0.0
Azmauth	45900.0	2.9
Atzmon	160.0	0.0
Aura Investments Res & Devel	4560.0	-0.2
Avarbuch Formica Center Ltd.	600.0	0.0
Aviation Links Ltd.	1132.0	0.0
Avner Oil & Gas Ltd.	4.8	2.1
Ayalon Holdings	860.0	0.0
Azimuth Ltd.	420.0	-0.7
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	256.0	16.4
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	550.0	0.0
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	405.0	2.8
Balentine	143.5	0.0
Bank Adanim Mortgage & Loans	297400.0	0.0
Bank Leumi Le-Israel	48.3	3.3
Bank of Jerusalem	190.0	4.0
BAR	333.0	0.0
BAR SOL	109.0	0.0
Barad	239.0	0.0
Baranowitz	602.0	0.0
Barkan Wine Cellars	640.0	0.0
Bartal	220.0	0.0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0.0
Bayside Land Corp.	1560.0	0.0
Beit Shemesh	1575.0	0.4
Beltron Investment Limited	3860.0	0.0
Belmon-Nurit Ltd.	400.0	0.0
Ben Yakar Gat	4300.0	0.0
Besli	289.0	0.0
Bezeq	410.0	2.0
Blu Enterprises (H.C) Limited	2200.0	0.0
Binar	260.0	0.0
Binyan Investment Co. Ltd.	1300.0	0.0
Biri	282.0	0.0
Birman Wood Industries-1992	150.0	0.0
Bonei Tichon	499.0	0.0
Bonjour	589.0	0.0
Boubous Gad	272.0	-6.8
Boubous Gad	30.5	0.0
Boubous Granite & Marble Ltd.	137.0	4.7
Brand	89.0	0.0
Brill Shoe Industries Ltd.	37.0	0.0
Brookside Investments Ltd.	14.3	0.0
Brosh	102.0	0.0
C Holdings	270.0	-3.6
Cantel	2100.0	1.0
Canyotol	30.0	0.0
Caprice Jewellery (1985) Limited	275.0	0.0
Caprice Jewellery (1985) Limited	64.0	0.0
Carmel Mortgage & Invest Bnk	486.0	-1.8
Castro Model Limited	495.0	0.0
Catalena	431.0	0.0
Caesarea Land & Resort Ltd.	6580.0	0.0
Cementcal	230.0	0.0
Central Securities Limited	638.0	0.0
Centre	150.0	0.0
Cham	392.0	1.0
Chayun Computers	161.0	0.0
Chemipal	450.0	0.0
Chem-Nir	315.0	0.0
CI Systems	112.0	0.0
Cidev Printed Circuits Limited	370.0	-4.1
Cleor Darom	353.0	0.0
Clal Tourism Limited	530.0	0.0
Cohen Beni	151.0	0.0
Cohen Development & Industrial Buildings Limited	150.0	0.0
Comfy Interactive Movies Ltd.	172.8	0.0
Comfy Interactive Movies Ltd.		—
Compufite	190.0	-8.2
Computer Direct	899.0	0.0
Comsoft Technologies	923.0	0.0
Comtech	420.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Comtrans Transportation & Eng.	809.0	0.0
Contahal Limited	1240.0	0.0
Contractors	21800.0	0.0
Coral Beach	768.0	0.0
Crow	619.0	0.0
Crystal Consumer Products Limited	530.0	0.0
Cyclone Aviation Products	3550.0	7.3
Dafron	1391.0	0.0
DAN Rent-A-Car	770.0	0.0
Danbar Ltd.	3580.0	1.1
Danbar Ltd.	8700.0	2.4
Danbar Resources Develop	4360.0	0.0
Danbar Technologies Ltd.	3550.0	-5.3
Danel	90.0	0.0
Danel (Adir Yeoshua) Limited	1900.0	0.0
Danel (Adir Yeoshua) Limited	151.0	0.0
Dankner	360.0	0.0
Danly	405.0	0.0
Darad		—
Darban	42.0	-19.2
Darea	154.6	0.0
Darlon	299.0	0.0
Data Automation Limited	633.0	-1.6
DCL Technologies Limited	649.0	0.0
Decision Systems Israel Limited	335.0	2.8
Degem Systems	430.0	1.4
Delek Drilling - LP	13.6	-4.2
Delek Energy Systems Limited	1260.0	-10.0
Destiny	1062.0	0.0
Di Rom Building Invest & Development	1400.0	0.0
Digal Investments & Holdings Limited	1200.0	-6.6
DJG Factory of Electrical Supplies Limited	430.0	0.0
Din Movies Production LP	1.0	0.0
Dolev Insurance Co. Limited	373.0	1.4
Domicar	461.0	0.0
Dor Berger	270.0	0.0
DOR Chemicals Limited	41.6	0.0
Dor Energy	1237.0	0.0
Dorea Investment & Developments Limited	50.6	0.0
Dori Engineering	472.0	0.0
Dovrat Shrem	1404.0	-1.1
DS Inv	599.0	0.0
Dubek	3.0	0.0
Dubek	2.9	0.0
Dunec Brothers Limited	245.0	0.0
E & M Computing	1246.0	-4.2
E Solomon Investment & Consultancy Limited	576.0	0.0
Ehud Capital Markets Ltd.	510.0	0.0
Elru Industries	138.3	0.0
ELA R Construction Engineer	275.0	0.0
Elad Hotels Ltd.	422.0	-9.8
Elad Hotels Ltd.	15.0	0.0
Eldan Tech Ltd	160.0	-8.6
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd.	280.0	-5.1
Electrode Works Zika Ltd.	565.0	0.0
Electrode Works Zika Ltd.	2540.0	0.0
Electronics Line (El) Ltd.	699.0	0.0
Elgar Migdal Investments Co.	6700.0	0.0
El-Kana Development Ltd.	395.0	0.0
Eliam Migdal Investment CP	4750.0	-3.5
Elrod-Development & Real EST	1.0	0.0
Elrod-Development & Real EST	206.0	0.0
El-Rov (Israel) Ltd.	70.0	0.0
Emek	198.0	0.1
Engel Trade Centers Ltd.	57.5	0.0
Enterprise	432.0	0.0
Equital Ltd.	1447.0	0.0
Europe Israel	1240.0	3.3
Evrot Industries Ltd.	280.0	0.0
Evrot Industries Ltd.	33.0	0.0
Excellence	1470.0	0.0
Export Investment Corp.	799.0	0.0
F.C.T. Formula Computer Technologies Limited	1070.0	0.0
Feldman Industr	260.0	0.0
Feuchtwanger Industries Ltd.	31600.0	0.0
Fidelity Gold	2830.0	0.0
Financial Levers Ltd.	24.0	0.0
Five J	371.0	0.0
Flying Carpet Limited	864.0	-4.0
FMS Enterprises Migun Limited	1799.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Frutarom	394.0	4.5
Gachelet	11100.0	0.0
Gal Beach Hotel	975.0	6.0
Galran	1350.0	0.0
Gama Communications Limited	139.0	0.0
Gamatronic	599.0	0.0
Gamda Computer Communications Limited	2790.0	-3.1
GAN Shmuel Food Industries	358.0	2.9
GAN Shmuel Food Industries	1280.0	4.9
Ganey Or Investments Limited	130.0	0.0
Gazit	700.0	0.0
Gazit Globe (1982) Limited	851.0	-0.9
Gibor	62.0	0.0
Gibor Sabrina Alpha Socks Limited	200.0	0.0
Gibor Sport Holdings Limited	681.0	0.0
Gibor Sport Holdings Limited	92.0	0.0
Gilboa	54.0	0.0
Gilon Investments (1979) Limited	180.0	0.0
Gilat Telecommunications	1826.0	-0.5
Givot Olam Oil Exploration - LP (1993)	98.0	-5.4
Golan Fine Crafts (1977) Limited	496.0	-5.2
Gold	375.0	0.0
Golden House	512.0	0.0
Green Software Development Limited	220.0	10.0
H Aloni Entprises Ltd.	279.0	0.0
Habas	3480.0	0.0
Hachsharat Hayishuv Hotels	320.0	0.0
Hachsharat Hayishuv Hotels	89.0	0.0
Hadar Insurance Co.	2550.0	0.0
Hadar Insurance Co.	693.0	10.0
Hadarim Propert	950.0	0.9
Hamakor Printing Limited	159.3	0.0
Hamashbir Fashion Warehouses Limited	540.0	0.0
Hashmira Security Technologies (1971) Limited	703.0	-2.5
Hashmira Security Technologies (1971) Limited	192.0	0.0
Hason	264.0	10.0
Hassin ESH	887.0	0.0
Hatehof Ltd	156.0	0.0
Hatehof Ltd	66.6	0.0
Hayel Holdings (1965) Ltd.	1110.0	0.0
Hayel Holdings (1965) Ltd.	90.2	0.0
HED Arzi	268.0	9.4
HGH Marketing & Distribution of Building Limited	439.0	0.0
Hiron Trade Investment IND	10150.0	0.0
Hiron Trade Investment IND	34000.0	0.0
HL Finance & Services Ltd	2390.0	0.0
Hod Metal Products Manufacturing Co. Limited	105.0	0.0
Holit	160.0	1.6
Hotel Yamit Tel Aviv Limited	188.0	0.0
IES Electronics Industries	26.5	0.0
IES Electronics Industries	251.0	0.0
Ilan GAT Engineers Ltd.	118.0	0.0
ILD Insurance	368.0	0.0
Imco Industries Ltd.	850.0	-3.6
Industrial Buildings Corp.	5.0	78.6
Industrial Buildings Corp.	18.3	-1.1
Industrial Development	1350.0	-2.5
Industries & Investments of Sefen Ltd.	1165.0	0.0
INOC Dead Sea LP	1.0	0.0
INOC Dead Sea LP	46.0	0.0
Intercosma Ltd.	1050.0	0.0
Inter-Gama Investment Co. Ltd.	2400.0	0.0
Inter-Gama Investment Co. Ltd.	11700.0	0.0
Inventech Investment Co.	600.0	0.0
Investment Co. Founded Ampa	5200.0	-0.3
Investment Corp. Of Mizrahi	9940.0	0.0
ISAL	1589.0	0.0
ISAL	394.0	5.1
Iscal Holdings Ltd.	1070.0	-1.7
ISE Consulting Directing Ltd.	1524.0	1.0
Isracolor	492.0	3.1
Israel Adler Ltd.	120.0	0.0
Israel Citrus Plantations	28800.0	-4.0
Israel Citrus Plantations	104000.0	0.0
Israel Cold Storage & Supply	2250.0	0.0
Israel Phoenix Assurance Co.	3220.0	0.0
Israel Properties Rental CP	5580.0	0.0
Israel Steel Mills	117.9	-1.8

	LAST	CHANGE*
Israeli Processing Co. Ltd.	90.6	0.0
Israel-Rassco Investment Co.	29700.0	0.0
Israel-Rassco Investment Co.	6740.0	0.0
Isralom Properties	984.0	0.0
Isramco - LP	2.5	-3.8
Issta Lines Limited	2290.0	0.0
Istec Capital Markets Limited	30.5	0.0
Ituran	3840.0	1.1
Jacobinski	117.9	0.0
Jaysour Mortgage Bank Ltd.	162.9	-10.0
JEC	135.0	-0.7
Jerusalem Oil Exploration	495.0	-6.3
Jerusalem Oil Exploration	2.5	-3.8
Jewelex	217.0	0.0
Jordan Investment Ltd.	459.0	7.0
Jordan River Hotel	460.0	0.0
Kadmany	119.0	0.0
Kedoun Signs Limited	729.0	0.0
Kadury & Hai (Motel) Assets & Investments Limited	852.0	0.0
Kafrit Industries (1993) Limited	1055.0	-5.8
Kalanit Carmon Software Services	1558.0	0.0
Kamor	343.0	0.0
Kardan International Ltd. Terol	515.0	3.0
Kardan International Ltd. Terol	2610.0	0.0
Kargal Limited	585.0	0.0
Katz	126.0	0.0
Kedem Chemicals	2700.0	0.0
Keren G.A.P. Development (1965)	145.0	2.0
Keren Gap Holdings	197.0	8.2
Kesher Rent a Car Limited	836.0	0.0
Keter Publishing House Limited	599.0	0.0
Kind	15.7	0.0
King Engine Bearings Ltd.	239.0	0.0
Kinneret View Hotel Limited	189.0	0.0
Kisch Kirur Ltd.	183.0	0.0
Keal Holdings & International Development	220.0	0.0
Kivun	36.0	0.0
Kil Industries Ltd.	6850.0	0.0
Kopel Limited (New)	333.0	0.0
L M Lipski Limited	4640.0	4.0
Lachish Industries Ltd.	3000.0	8.7
Lamont	620.0	0.0
Lapidoth	55.0	-15.6
Laser Technology	415.0	-3.5
Laviav	450.0	0.0
Leader	1020.0	0.0
Leedan	1350.0	0.0
Lego	437.0	0.0
Lavi	498.0	6.2
Lew	28.0	0.0
Lieber Subsoil Industries Limited	334.0	0.0
Ligad Investments & Building	253.0	0.0
Lighterage Supp	670.0	-0.7
Lims-Lab Information & Mgmt Systems	245.0	0.0
Lipman	3250.0	0.0
Lito Offset Ziv Limited	205.0	0.0
Lodzia-Rotex Investment Limited	1126.0	-10.3
Lodzia-Rotex Investment Limited	4850.0	0.0
Loewenthal	560.0	0.0
Luchot Hagalil	23.0	0.0
Ludan Engineering Co. Limited	143.0	6.7
Lumir Holdings Ltd.	3100.0	0.0
M&M Cohen Building and Construction Limited	130.0	0.0
Maabarot	1060.0	7.7
Macpell	489.0	0.0
Macpell	22.0	0.0
Mafil	400.0	0.0
Magam	185.0	0.0
Magma	245.0	8.9
Magor Holdings Ltd.	1640.0	0.0
Magor Holdings Ltd.	7400.0	0.0
Makor Hatornaika Ltd.	100.0	0.0
Man Food Industries & Investments Limited	59.0	0.0
Marathon Capital Development Fund Limited	93.0	0.0
Maritime Bank Of Israel	1269.0	1.7
Mashav Refrigeration Industries Limited	674.0	-2.5
Mashov Computers Ltd.	471.0	-2.9
Mashov Computers Marketing Limited	415.0	-7.9

	LAST	CHANGE*
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	1273.0	0.2
Matityahu Lifshitz Ltd.	161.6	-4.9
Matityahu Lifshitz Ltd.	520.0	0.0
Maxima Air Separation Center	375.0	0.0
Maxima Air Separation Center	1420.0	0.0
Mediterranean Sea Hotels Limited	48.0	0.0
Medtechnica	590.0	8.3
Medtechnica	37.0	12.1
Megason	57.5	0.0
Meir Ezra & Sons	1433.0	6.9
Mellaron	31.0	3.3
Melta Inter Industry (1973) Limited	500.0	0.0
Mendelsohn	291.0	0.0
Menorah Holdings Ltd	6900.0	0.0
MER Industries Limited	831.0	0.0
Merhav	135.0	0.7
Meshulam Levinstein CON & EN	3210.0	0.0
Meshulam Levinstein CON & EN	4450.0	0.0
Meytav	104.0	0.0
Michnal Building & Inv (5)	19.0	0.0
Middle East Tube	162.0	-10.0
Middle East Tube	1.0	0.0
Milaley Etze Karmel Limited	402.0	0.0
Miloumor	1457.0	0.0
Miloumor	61.0	0.0
Mimsar	132.9	0.0
Mini Line	657.0	0.0
Minrav Holdings Ltd.	13470.0	0.0
Mivtach Shamir	2310.0	1.8
Mivtach Shamir Finance Limited	1141.0	0.0
MLI Lasers (1992) Ltd.	74.5	4.8
MLL	267.0	0.0
MM	101.0	0.0
MMD Technology Israel 1983	1950.0	0.0
Modgal	780.0	0.0
Molet Israel Technology Fund	188.2	-4.4
Molet Israel Technology Fund	220.0	0.0
MOR	366.0	8.7
Moshkovitz	118.0	-7.8
MTI	189.0	-10.0
MTM	1522.0	0.0
Mula Center-Beauty	223.0	0.0
Multiple Investments & Developing Limited	900.0	0.0
Mul-T-Lock Ltd.	830.0	0.0
Myrag	148.6	-9.9
Mzpk	770.0	0.0
N. Feldman & Son Limited	89.0	9.3
Namal	115.0	0.0
Naphtha	22.0	2.3
Natonale - PRF	127.0	0.0
Natour-Travel Agents Association for Organized Tours Limited	580.0	0.0
Navigator Inv	222.0	0.0
Nechushtan Invt Co. Ltd.	470.0	0.0
Nechushtan Invt Co. Ltd.	2600.0	0.0
Nechushtan Prop	155.9	0.0
Nechushtan Prop	17.9	0.0
Negev Ceramics Ltd.	186.3	0.0
Neot Aviv Ltd.	7500.0	0.0
Nessuah Zannex Limited	427.0	0.0
Neurim Pharmaceuticals (1991) Limited	—	—
Neve Arbel	185.0	0.0
Nevilim	354.0	0.0
Neviot	789.0	0.0
NIA Metal Works & Electronic Painting Limited	268.0	0.0
Nikuv Computers (Israel) Ltd.	700.0	0.0
Nisko Industries (1992) Limited	2050.0	0.0
Nissan	260.0	-0.4
NMC Music Ltd.	246.0	5.1
Noga	1480.0	3.4
Noga Insurance Company Limited	78.3	0.0
Nordan - LP		—
Nordan Tech	500.0	0.0
Nortek	595.0	0.0
NUR Outdoor Advertising Ltd.	63.0	0.0
Oceans Advanced Industries	272.0	0.0
Ocif Investment & Developmen	8100.0	0.0
Ocif Investment & Developmen	500.0	0.0
Ofer	6500.0	0.0
Ofer Commercial Centers Limited	568.0	0.0
Ofer Development & Investments Limited	1197.0	3.6

	LAST	CHANGE*
Offis Textile Ltd.	950.0	0.0
Ogdan	61.0	0.0
Oil Fields LP	2.2	0.0
Olizky Mining Ltd.	38.0	0.0
Omni Food Brands Limited	253.0	0.0
Omni-Elchut Limited	210.0	0.0
Ophir	299.0	0.0
Ophir Tours Limited	440.0	0.0
Oppenheimer Jerusalem Sweets	88.0	0.0
Optima Management &Invest 86	143.0	0.0
Orazit Ltd.	500.0	0.0
Orbit-Alchut Technologies	740.0	-1.3
Orda Print Industries Ltd.	2480.0	-0.8
Ord Holdings Limited	360.0	0.0
Orlite Industries (1959) Ltd.	313.0	0.0
Orlite Industries (1959) Ltd.	48.0	0.0
Ormat Industries	1.0	0.0
Orsys Clinical Systems Limited	2880.0	0.0
Ortal Diecasting (1993) Ltd.	385.0	0.0
Otzar Hashilton Hamekomi Ltd.	22500.0	-2.2
Oz Abd	388.0	5.4
OZ Hydraulics	115.0	0.0
OZ Investment Co. Ltd.	166.0	0.0
Packer Plada Limited	5490.0	3.6
Palram Industries (1990) Ltd.	825.0	-1.6
Pama Investment & Properties	605.0	0.0
Pan Door Industries Limited	250.0	0.0
Pardess	600.0	0.0
Parflen	54.5	0.0
Payton Industries Limited	550.0	10.4
Paz-Chen Ltd	520.0	0.0
PCB Ltd.	1230.0	2.5
Pareg	123.0	0.0
Penclass	1050.0	0.5
Pica	300.0	0.0
Pilat Technologies International Ltd.	95.0	0.0
Pirros Holdings Limited	125.0	-3.8
Plasson	4630.0	1.3
Plasson	410.0	2.2
Plasto SAC	555.0	0.0
Plasto SAC	60.0	0.0
Poalim Investments Limited	1890.0	0.0
Polgal Ltd.	420.0	1.4
Polgat Ltd.	1707.0	0.5
Polak	191.3	-0.9
Polygon Real Estate Ltd.	2000.0	0.0
Poseidon Industries	86.8	0.0
Printing Enterprises Limited	401.0	0.0
Pritzker Enterprise Ltd.	174.8	0.0
Profit	440.0	0.0
Properties Enterprise and Development Limited	1249.0	3.2
Pyramid	49.6	0.0
Queenco Ltd.		-
Rabintex	344.0	16.6
Ralco Agencies	209.0	0.0
RAM ZUR	58.5	0.0
Ramgor Investments Limited	170.0	0.0
Rantech Limited	516.0	0.0
Rapac	2060.0	1.5
Rassco Rural & Suburban Settlement	1410.0	-0.4
Ratio Oil Exploration - LP	1.0	0.0
RAV CAR	178.0	0.0
Ravad	137.0	0.0
RED SEA Hotels Ltd.	740.0	0.0
Regency Jerusalem Hotel	125.0	5.0
Reikah	390.0	0.0
Reshet	60.0	9.1
Rimoni Industries Limited	799.0	0.0
Rogosin Enterprises Of Israe	1757.0	-1.0
Rogosin Enterprises Of Israe	430.0	0.0
Romtech	430.0	0.0
Rosebud Medical	85.1	0.0
Rosenthal	102.5	0.0
Rotem	248.0	0.0
Rotshtein Construction & Assets Company Limited	118.8	3.3
RSL Electronics Limited	540.0	0.0
RSL Electronics Limited	304.0	0.0
Sadot Research and Development Fund Limited	220.0	-0.5
Sahar Development & Invest	2790.0	0.0
Sahar Development & Invest	390.0	0.0
Sahar Securities	560.0	0.0
Salomon A Angel Ltd.	5750.0	0.0
Santacol Ltd.	336.0	0.0
Sano-Brunos Enterprises Ltd.	2850.0	0.0
Sano-Brunos Enterprises Ltd.	14600.0	0.0
Sarfati	536.0	0.0
Sarfati	35.0	84.2
Scope Metals Trading & Technical Services Ltd	77.0	0.0
Scope Metals Trading & Technical Services Ltd	1199.0	2.5
Secom (Israel)	269.0	-1.8
Semicom Industries Limited	127.0	0.0
Seraton	355.0	0.0
Shahar Hamillennium (1981)	950.0	0.0
Shamir	579.0	0.0
Shany	572.0	3.2
Shay Bar Real Estate Investments Limited	67.3	0.0
Shekel	230.0	0.0
Shekem Limited	66.5	0.0
Shelag Textile Limited	115.0	0.0
Shem TOV	305.0	0.0
Shemen Industries Ltd.	12150.0	0.0
Shiadot Metal Works Ltd.	64.0	10.0
Shore Zone Constr Property	377.0	6.2
Shtang	94.5	9.9
Shulamit Gardens Hotels Limited	445.0	0.0
Simcha Ureli & Sons Engin	102.0	0.0
Sinai	693.0	0.0
Sintec	288.0	-5.6
Solomon Holding	406.0	9.7
Solomon Holding	59.0	0.0
Spectronix Ltd.	1241.0	0.0
STG International Ltd.	1000.0	0.0
Sunfrost Ltd.	4050.0	0.0
Super Email Ltd.	950.0	-4.2
Super Email Ltd.	80.0	0.0
Synopsis	172.0	0.0
Taal Manufacturing Plywood		..
Tadbik	230.0	0.0
Tadiran Consumer Ltd.	550.0	0.0
Tadiran Ltd.		..
TAL	130.0	0.0
Taldor Computer Systems (1986) Limited	553.0	0.0
Tashluz Invest & Holdings		
Taste	189.0	7.4
TAT Aero Equipment Industrie	354.0	-4.3
TAT Aero Equipment Industrie	1299.0	1.5
Taya Communication	565.0	2.8
Taya Inv (5)	727.0	6.8
Team Computers & Systems Ltd	5800.0	4.5
Team Computers & Systems Ltd	530.0	0.0
Technoplast Industries Ltd.	503.0	0.2
Tedea Technological Development & Automation Ltd.	1382.0	-1.2
Tedea Technological Development & Automation Ltd.	157.0	0.0
Tefen	1348.0	0.0
Telsys	1250.0	0.0
Telsys	300.0	0.0
Tenne	175.0	0.0
Teuza-A Fairchild Tech Vent	175.0	2.9
Teuza-A Fairchild Tech Vent	189.0	1.1
The Israel Corp. Limited	160000.0	2.6
Third Millennium Tourism & Recreation Limited	188.0	0.0
Tibon-Veal Holdings Ltd.	139.0	9.0
TIV Textile Group (1969) Ltd.	369.0	0.0
TMM Integrated Recycling Industries Limited	166.0	0.0
Tobias	1859.0	-0.2
Tom Holdings Limited	1020.0	0.0
Topper Fashion Enterp (1977)		..
Tosaf Compounds Limited	379.0	0.0
Trade Bank Limited	374.0	0.0
Tradekel	513.0	0.0
Transclal	488.0	-7.0
Trendline Information and Communication Services Limited	1800.0	0.0
Tuttnauer	930.0	0.0
Tzmiha Investment House Ltd.	520.0	0.0
Unibar (1)	754.0	0.0
Unico Investment Co. Ltd.	4500.0	0.0
Unicom Investments Co. Ltd.	34.0	0.0
Unidress Industries Ltd.	2130.0	2.9
United Mizrahi Bank Ltd.	57.2	3.1
Univercol-H Hoffman & Sons	520.0	0.0
Urdan Industries Ltd.	285.0	-1.4
Videomatrix		..
Villar	444.0	0.0
Villiger	27.5	0.0
Vitalgo Textile Works Ltd.	306.0	-10.0
VSP Capital Holdings Limited	958.0	0.0
Vulcan	491.0	0.0
Wardinon	25000.0	0.0
Wardinon	155.7	0.8
Willy Food	1200.0	0.0
Willy Food	325.0	0.0
Wolfman Industries Ltd.	476.0	0.0
Wolfman Industries Ltd.	2100.0	0.0
Wolfson	65800.0	0.0
Yaad Industries Ltd.	311.0	0.0
Yaad Industries Ltd.	60.0	0.0
Yaakov Engel Constr Enter Co.	537.0	9.6
YAD	548.0	11.8
Yadpaz Steel Service Co. Limited	259.0	0.0
Yama Systems	871.0	0.0
Yeda Computers & Software (1982 Israel) Limited	1500.0	0.0
Yeuda	209.0	0.0
Yonah Hotels Ltd.	210.0	5.5
YT America - Israel Investment Company Limited	2300.0	0.0
YT America - Israel Investment Company Limited	360.0	0.0
Zafrir Engineers Limited	560.0	0.0
Zeevi Computers & Technology Limited	10500.0	-0.5
Zeevi Retail Chains Limited	49700.0	0.0
Zeler Eblagon	390.0	0.0
Zeler Eblagon Investments & Securities		..
Zikit Properties & Development (1956) Limited	2750.0	0.0
Zikit Properties & Development (1956) Limited	10100.0	0.0
Zinomesal	540.0	0.0
Zion Holdings Ltd.	15000.0	0.0
Zohar Industries (1986) Ltd.	251.0	0.0
Zoko	288.0	0.0
ZUR Shamir Holdings Ltd.	157.6	0.0

AMEX

	LAST	CHANGE*
American Israeli Paper Mills	37.38	0.67
Ampal American Israel	4.31	0.0
Carmel Container SYS	5.88	0.0
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd	0.69	0.0
Emultek Ltd	5.5	2.33
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	8.44	0.0
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	5.13	0.0
Integrated Technology USA	1.5	-4.0

NASDAQ

A.C.S Electronics Limited	2.0	0.0
Accent Software International Ltd.	0.25	0.0
Accent Software International Ltd.	0.25	0.0
Aladdin Knowledge Systems	10.25	1.24
American Israeli Paper Mills	37.38	0.67
Ampal American Israel	11.69	0.0
Arel Communications & Software Ltd.	5.5	-3.3
Arel Communications & Software Ltd.	1.0	-5.88
BVR Technologies Ltd.	2.75	-4.35
Better Online Solutions Ltd.	4.75	0.0
Blue Square-Israel Ltd	12.0	0.0
BVR Systems Ltd.	9.19	0.0
Carmel Container SYS	5.88	0.0
Check Point Software Technologies	34.69	-9.61
Comverse Technology Inc	73.13	1.92
Dara Systems & Software	2.0	-1.54
Cimatron Ltd.	2.0	8.47
Crystal Systems Solutions	8.19	3.15
ECI Telecom Ltd	37.25	1.36
Edusoft Ltd	7.88	-1.18
DSP Group Inc	14.25	0.89
Elbit Ltd.	3.69	-1.67
Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd	10.06	-10.56
Elbit Systems Ltd.	13.63	2.35
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd	0.69	0.0
Elron Electronic Inds	17.13	0.0
Elscint Ltd.	12.81	-1.44
Etek Ltd.	0.88	-22.22
Emultek Ltd.	5.5	2.33
Engel General Developers Ltd.	1.31	0.0
ESC Medical Systems Ltd.	5.03	0.0
Eshed Robotec (1982) Ltd.	0.38	0.0
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	5.13	0.0
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	8.44	0.0
Formula Systems (1985) Ltd.	25.0	1.01
Forsoft Ltd.	9.25	-3.27
Fundtech Ltd.	20.81	-0.3
Galileo Technology Ltd.	23.0	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	0.75	-20.0
Genesis Development & Constr	0.22	16.67
Genesis Development & Constr	2.31	2.78
Genesis Development & Constr	1.94	0.0
Gilat Communications Ltd.	9.63	1.32
Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd.	58.88	-0.63
Healthcare Technologies Ltd	0.88	0.0
Home Centers (Diy) Ltd.	9.63	0.0
IIS Intelligent Information	0.5	-20.0
ISG International Software Group Ltd.	11.63	-0.54
The Israel Land Development	15.0	0.0
Koor Industries Limited	18.94	0.0
Lanoptics Ltd.	2.38	11.77
Logal Educational Software	0.63	11.11
M-Systems Flash Disk Pioneer	4.13	-5.71
Magal Security Systems Ltd	3.22	0.98
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	24.81	3.65
Medis El Ltd.	5.5	-3.7
Memco Software Ltd.	10.34	1.74
MER Telemanagement Solutions	1.63	4.0
New Dimension Software	49.75	6.42
Nexus Telecommunication SYS	2.5	0.0
Nice Systems Ltd.	30.23	0.78
Noga Electro-Mechanical Industries (1985) Ltd.	0.88	0.0
NUR Macroprinters Ltd.	3.0	-4.0
Optisystems Solutions Ltd	7.75	-1.59
Orbotech Ltd.	44.88	-2.05
Orckit Communications Ltd	14.56	0.45
Oshap Technologies Ltd.	9.63	0.65
Paradigm Geophysical Ltd.	4.69	2.74
Point of Sale Limited	7.25	-2.52
Rada Electronic Inds Ltd	0.97	-3.13
Radcom Ltd.	2.56	-6.82
RIT Technologies Ltd	1.91	1.67
Sapiens International Corp.	10.75	-0.58
Scanvec Co Ltd	2.44	2.63
Sodex Corp. Ltd.	8.69	-5.44
Silicom Ltd	1.69	0.0
Super-Sol Limited	12.63	1.0
TVG Technologies Ltd	0.81	13.04
TVG Technologies Ltd	180.0	0.0
Tadiran Telecommunications	20.5	1.55
TAT Technologies Ltd.	1.56	0.0
Tecnomatix Technologies Ltd.	13.06	-1.42
Tefron Ltd	7.88	0.0
Teva Pharmaceutical	40.19	-3.62
TOP Image Systems Ltd.	1.63	0.0
Tower Semiconductor Ltd.	7.0	0.0
TTI Team Telecom International Ltd	7.44	-0.83
Vocaltec Communications Ltd.	11.25	-2.17
Wiztec Solutions Ltd.	16.94	5.66

NYSE

Amdocs	24.88	1.54
Blue Square-Israel Ltd.	12.0	0.0
Dmatek Ltd.	29.25	0.0
DSP Communications Inc.	14.75	-1.67
Elscint Ltd	12.75	-1.44
First Israel Fund	11.63	-2.65
GEO Interactive Media Group	47.0	-16.07
Koor Industries Limited	19.0	0.0
PEC Israel Economic Corp.	29.44	0.43
Simula Inc	5.86	-3.09
Super-Sol Limited	12.63	1.0
Tefron Ltd.	7.88	0.0

LONDON

Batm Advanced Communications	244.0	3.83
Technoplast Industries Ltd	81.0	0.62
Selector Ltd.	2.5	0.0
Pilat Technologies International Ltd	13.5	0.0

ISRAELI SHARES ABROAD

AMEX

Am Israel Paper Mills	37.375	+0.25
Ampal American Israel	4.3125	-0
Carmel Container Sys.	5.875	0
Electro Chemical Ind.	0.6875	0
Emultek	5.5	+0.125
Etz Lavud	8.4375	0
Etz Lavud Cl A	5.125	0
Integrated Technology	1.5	-0.0625

NASDAQ

ACS Electronics Ltd	2	+0
Accent Software	0.25	+0
A G Associates	6.375	+0
Aladdin	10.25	+0.125
Ampal	11.6875	0
Arel Commun & Software	5.5	-0.1875
Arel Comm & Soft Warrant	1.0625	0
Better Online Solutions	4.75	+0
Better Online Sol Ltd 99	0.25	+0
Biogen Inc	102.25	+6.125
Bio Technology General	8.28125	+0.0625
B.V.R. Systems Ltd	9.1875	0
B.V.R Technologies	2.75	-0.125
Checkpoint Software	34.625	-3.75
Cimatron	2	+0.15625
Comverse Technology	73.25	+1.5
Crystal Systems Solutions	8.1875	+0.25
D.S.P.G. Group	13.9375	-0.1875
D.S.P.T. Tech	6.125	+0.40625
Data Systems Software	2	-0.03125
ECI Telecom	37.25	+0.5
Edusoft	7.875	-0.09375
Electric Fuel	3.5	+0.125
Electronics for Imaging	34.9375	+0
Elbit Computers	3.6875	-0.0625
Elron Electronics ord	17.125	+0
Elbit Medical Imaging	10.0625	-1.1875
Elbit Systems Ltd	13.625	+0.3125
Eltek Circuit Boards	0.875	-0.25
Engel General Developers	1.3125	+0
ESC Medical Systems Ltd	5.03125	+0
Elbit Vision Systems	1.84375	+0.03125
Eshed Robotec (1982)	0.375	0
Formula Systems (1985)	25	+0.25
Forsoft Ltd	9.25	-0.3125
Fundtech	20.875	+0
Galileo	23	0
G.Willi-Food	1.1875	0
Gilat Comm Ltd	9.625	+0.125
Gilat Satellite Networks	58.75	-0.5
Genesis Bnia	2.3125	+0.0625
Healthcare Technologies	0.875	+0
Home Center	9.625	+0
I C T.S.	4.6875	-0.3125
IIC Industries	9.3125	-1.8125
I.I.S. Intelligent Info	0.5	-0.125
Israel Land Develop - ADR	15	0
Indigo	4.0625	+0
ISG Intl Software Group	11.625	-0.0625
Isramco	2.0625	-0.0625
Lan Optics	2.375	+0.25
Logal	0.625	+0.0625
Level 8 Systems	10.0625	+0.5625
M-Systems Flash Disk	4.1875	-0.1875
Madge	3.5	-0.0625
Magal Security Systems	3.21875	+0.03125
Matav	24.8125	+0.875
Medis El	5.5	-0.25
Memco	10.9375	+0.1875
Mer Telemanagement	1.625	+0.0625
Mercury	35.9375	+3.875

	LAST	CHANGE*
Magic Software Enterprises	5.75	-0.0625
Netmanage	2.625	-0.125
New Dimension Software	49	+3
Nexus Telecomm Sys Ltd	2.5	+0
Nice Systems	30.1875	+0.1875
Neuro-Medical Systems	0.3125	+0.03125
Noga Electro Mechanical	0.875	+0
Nur Tecnology	3	-0.125
Opti Systems Solutions	7.6875	-0.1875
Optomedics Medical Tech	0.8125	+0
Optomedics Medical Warrant	0.25	0
Orbit/FR Inc	2.125	+0
Orbotech	45.125	-0.6875
Orckit	14.5625	+0.0625
Oshap Technologies	9.5	-0.0625
Paradigm Geophys	4.4375	-0.125
Pharmos	1.25	-0.0625
Point of Sale	7.25	-0.1875
Rada Electronics Ind	0.96875	-0.03125
Radcom Ltd	2.5625	-0.1875
RIT Technologies	1.9375	+0.0625
RSL Communications	28.125	-1.0625
Scitex Corporations	8.6875	-0.5
Silicom	1.6875	0
Summit Design	3.65625	+0.15625
Sapiens International	10.8125	+0
Scanvec	2.4375	+0.0625
Tadiran Telecomm	20.5	+0.3125
Taro Pharmaceuticals Ind	5.5	+0
Tat Technologies	1.5625	0
Technomatix Technologies	13.0625	-0.1875
Teva	40.125	-0.3125
Top Image Systems	4.625	+0
Top Image Systyms Warrant	0.5	0
Tower Semiconductor	7	+0
TTI Team Telecom Intl Ltd	7.4375	-0.0625
TVG Technologies	0.8125	+0.09375
TVG Tech A	0.125	0
TVG Tech B	0.1875	+0
TVG Tech C	0.15625	+0
Vocaltec	11.25	-0.25
Wiz Tec Solutions	16.9375	+0.9375
Zoran Corporation	17.5625	-0.4375

NYSE

Amdocs	24.875	+0.5
Blue Square	12	0
D.S.P. Communications	14.8125	-0.1875
Elscint	12.6875	-0.3125
First Israel Fund	11.625	-0.1875
PEC Israel Economic Corp	29.4375	+0.125
Koor	19	+0.0625
Simula Inc	5.875	-0.1875
Super-Sol Ltd	12.5	0
Tadiran	-	-
Tefron Ltd	7.875	+0

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 1-MAR-99)

LONDON

Batm Advanced	244	+8
Dmatek Ltd.	29.25	+0
Pilat	13.5	+0
S.E.A. Multimedia	-	-

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 1-MAR-99)

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

Aura	51	-1.5625
AMP Inc	52.8125	-0.375
AMR Corp	56.125	+0.6875
ASA	15.8125	+0.1875
Abbott Labs	45.9375	-0.375
Advanced Micro	18.3125	+0.4375
Aetna Life	74.25	+0.1875
Affiliated Publ	17.75	0
Aflac	46.125	+2.34375
Air Prods	31.625	-0.5
Alberto-Culv B	23.4375	-0.5625
Albertsons	55.625	-1.375
Alcan Aluminum	24.375	+0.0625
Allied Signal	41.9375	+0.5
Alcoa	41.375	+0.875
Amazon	133	+4.875
Amerada Hess	44.375	-1
Amer Brands	21.1875	+0.1875
Amer El Power	41.5	-0.125
Amer Express	111.5	+3
Amer Genl Corp	74	+0.75
Amer Greeting	23.5625	-0.125
Amer Home Pr	58.9375	-0.625
Amer Intl	112.875	-1.1875
Amer Natl Ins	73.0625	-2.1875
Amer On Line	89.375	+0.4375
Amer Power Conv	36.25	-0.625
Amer Stores	32.875	-0.6875
Amer T & T	81.125	-1
Amer Water Hldg	18	+1
Ameritech	63.4375	-1.9375
Ametek Inc	17.0625	+0.125
Amgen	64.25	+1.8125
Amoco	-	-
Analog Devices	25.75	+0.6875
Andrew Corp	15.5625	+0.4375
Anheuser-Busch	76.625	-0.0625
Aon Corp	59	+0.0625
Apple Computer	33.75	-1.0625
Applied Magnetics	3.875	-0.125
Applied Materials	57.0625	+1.4375
Archer Daniels	15.4375	+0.3125
Armco	5	+0
Armstrong World	49.6875	+0.5
Asarco	14.375	+0.25
Ascend	76.5625	-0.375
Ashland Coal	10.6875	-0.25
Ashland Oil	43	-1.5
Atlantic Energy	20.8125	-0.375
Atlantic Rchfld	53.875	-0.75
Auto Data Pro	39.5	-0.25
Autodesk	40.875	+0.75
Avery Dennison	53.25	-0.1875
Avnet Inc	41.9375	+2.25
Avon Products	43.125	+1.5
Barnco Corp	5.8125	-0.1875
Baker Hughes	17.875	-0.125
Ball Corp	41.1875	-0.6875
Baltimore Gas	25.75	+0.125
Banc One Corp	54.625	+0.875
Bandag	32.625	-0.9375
BankAmerica	67.1875	+1.875
Bank of Boston	40.8125	+0.375
Bank of New Yk	36.5	+1.5625
Bankers Trst NY	86.9375	+0.0625
Barnes & Noble	28.3125	-1.3125
Battle Mount Gd	3.375	+0
Bausch & Lomb	59.9375	-0.375
Baxter Intl	70	-0.375
Becton Dickinson	33.5625	+0.0625
Bed Bath & Bynd	30.375	+0.9375
Bell Atlantic	55.8125	-1.8125
Bell Industries	11.1875	+0.125
BellSouth	45.875	-0.625
HA Belo Corp	18.25	+0.125
Beneficial Corp	19.75	0
Bethlehem Steel	8.5625	-0.25
Beverly Entprs	5.3125	+0.125
Biomet	38	+1.3125
Black & Decker	48.5	-0.25
Boeing	35.5	-0.125
Boise Cascade	30.5625	-0.5
Books a Million	11.125	-0.0625
Borden Inc	22.875	+1.5625
Bowater Inc	41.25	-0.875
Briggs & Strtn	48.4375	-0.375
Brstl Myrs Sqb	64.3125	+1.375
Brit Airws ADR	72.25	-1.75
Brit Steel ADR	19.8125	+0.125
Brit Telecom	173.438	-2.1875
Brown Group	15.5	-0.125
Brown & Sharpe	7.375	+0.125
Browning Ferris	31.1875	-0.3125
Brunswick	20.9375	-0.375
Burlington Nthn	32.4375	-0.6875
Burlington Res	32.875	+0.5
CBS Inc	37.0625	+0.1875
CMS Energy Corp	41	-0.375
CSX Corporation	39.3125	+0.0625
Cabot Corp	24.875	-0.3125
Campbell Soup	40.875	+0.6875
Canadian Pac	17.8125	-0.875
Capital Cts ABC	52.8125	+0.875
Capstead	4.9375	+0
Ceramatrx Corp	22.75	+0.5
Carnival Corp	44.4375	-0.0625
Carolina Pwr Lt	40.0625	+0.1875
Carpenter Tech	26.25	+0.3125
Caterpillar	49.1875	+3.625
Centex Corp	36.625	-0.1875
Central & SW	24.5625	-0.25
Ceridian	35.5	-0.3125
Champion Intl	37	+0
Chrmg Shoppes	3.90625	+0.53125
Chase Manhattan	80.75	+1.125
Chevron Corp	78.0625	-0.8125
Citigroup Inc	61.1875	+2.4375
Chiquita Brands	8.5625	-0.1875
Cholestec	3.125	+0.125
Chubb Corp	60.1875	+0.1875
Cisco	99.4375	+1.625
Clevel Cliffs	37.1875	+0.125
Clorox	117.625	-0.6875
Coastal Corp	32.3125	+0.0625
Coca Cola	63.5625	-0.3125
Coca Cola Ent	31.6875	-0.6875
Colgate Palmolv	84.5	-0.375
Comcast Corp A	70	-0.9375

	LAST	CHANGE*
Compaq	33.25	-2.125
Compute Ass Int	41.9375	-0.0625
Computer Sci	65.6875	-0.9375
Conagra	30.1875	+0.125
Cons Edison	46.6875	-0.0625
Cons Freightwys	41.9375	-0.3125
Cons Nat Gas	54.25	-0.6875
Cooper Inds	44.0625	+0.3125
Coors (Adolph)	60.125	+0.5625
Corning Inc	58.5	+3
Crane	28.75	-0.6875
Crompton Knowles	18.1875	-0.3125
Crown Cork Seal	27.875	+0.125
Cummins Engine	41.75	+0.75
Curtiss-Wright	37.6875	+0.125
Cypress Semicon	8.375	-0.1875
Cyprus Mineral	10.8125	-0.4375
Cytec Indust	25.3125	-1.5
Daimlerchrysle	91.0625	-2.875
DQE	37.875	-0.3125
Dallas Semi	35.375	+0
Dana Corp	38.25	+0.5
Data General	14.5625	+0.75
Dayton Hudson	64.125	+1.5625
De Beers	17	-0.125
Deere	33.5625	+0.875
Dell Computers	80.5625	+0.5
Delta Air Lines	62.9375	+2.125
Deluxe Corp	34.5625	+0.6875
Detroit Edison	39.5625	-0.0625
Dial Corp Del	28.25	+0.0625
Diebold Inc	28.5	+0.1875
Dillard Dep St	24.9375	+0.0625
Disney (Walt)	34.8125	-0.375
Dominion Res	38.75	+0.125
Donlden Lufkin	56.5	-0.5
Donelley (RR)	34.1875	-0.0625
Dover Corp	34.125	+0.125
Dow Chemicals	98.9375	+0.5625
Dow Jones	47.1875	+0.1875
Duke Power	58.9375	+0.0625
Dun & Bradst	35.5625	+1.3125
Du Pont	52.4375	+1.125
E G & G Corp	26.5	+0
Eastern Ents	38.5625	+0.125
Eastman Kodak	65.8125	-0.375
Eaton Corp	68.3125	-1.0625
Egghead Com	16.1875	-0.0625
Emerson Elec	57	-0.4375
Engelhard Corp	17.8125	+0
Enron Corp	63.5	-1.5
Entergy Corp	28.0625	-0.1875
Enzo Biochem	11.1875	+0.1875
Equifax Inc	37.75	+0
Ericsson	25.8125	-0.1875
Ethyl Corp	4.75	-0.125
Exide Corp	14.25	-0.75
Exxon	65.1875	-1.375
FMC Corp	51.875	+0.6875
FPL Group	51.5	+0.0625
Fedders Corp	5.4375	-0.0625
Federal Exprss	93.8125	-1.4375
Federal Mogul	49.125	+0
Fed Nat Mtge	70	+0
First Union	53.5625	+0.25
Fruit of the Loom	12.625	-0.0625
Fst Union Rlty	4.125	-0.0625
Fleet Finl Grp	42.8125	+0.1875
Fleetwd Enterp	31.4375	-1
Fleming Cos Ok	7.5	+0.125
Florida Prog	38.9375	-0.1875
Fluor Corp	34.875	-0.3125
Food Lion Inc	9.875	+0.125
Ford Motor	58.375	-0.9375
Fortune Brands	29.9375	-0.1875
Foster Wheeler	12.25	-0.25
Furniture Brands	21.625	+0.25
Gateway 2000	71	-1.6875
GATX Corp	35	+0.6875
GTE Corp	63	-1.875
Gannett	64.5625	+1.0625
Gap Inc Del	64.75	+0.0625
Gencorp	19.1875	-0.875
Gen Am Invest	30.75	-0.0625
Gen Dynamics	58.875	-1.6875
Gen Electric	100.938	+0.625
Gen Mills	81.125	+0.5
Gen Motors	83.125	+0.5625
Gen Motors H	47.125	+0.0625
Gen Public Util	40.25	+0.375
Gen Reinsurnce	-	-
Gen DataComm	2.5	-0.125
Genuine Parts	29.875	-0.1875
Georgia Pac	72.5	-0.75
Germany Fund	13.0625	-0.1875
Gillette	54.25	+0.25
Glaxo ADR	62.75	-1.3125
Golden W Finl	93	-0.9375
Goodrich (BF)	34.5625	+0.4375
Goodyear Tire	48.25	+2.1875
Grace (W&R)	13.1875	-0.25
Grainger (WW)	44.75	+0.25
Grt Atl Pac Tea	31.25	-0.3125
Grt Central Mine	2.6875	-0.0625
Gulf Canada Res	2.5	+0.25
Halliburton	28.5	+0
Hanna (MA)	11.125	+0.125
Harcourt	46.4375	+0.625
Harley Davidson	58.8125	-1.0625
Harnischfeger	7.1875	-0.5
Harrah's Ent	16.9375	+0.25
Harris Corp	30.6875	-0.4375
Harsco Corp	27.3125	-0.75
Hartmax	4.375	+0.0625
Hasbro	37	-0.0625
HBO & Co	-	-
Health Care Ppt	29.625	+0.25
Hecla Mining	3.6875	+0
Heinz (HJ)	54	-0.5
Helix Technol	19.0625	-0.625
Hmrch & Payne	16.4375	+0.125
Hercules	27.9375	+0.4375
Hershey Foods	61.9375	-0.3125
Hewlett Packard	65.875	-0.5625
Hilton Hotels	15.75	-0.0625
Hirsch Intl	2.9375	+0.0625
Hollinger	13.125	+0.75
Home Depot	59.6875	+0
Homestake	9.25	+0.0625
Honeywell	69.875	-0.0625
Hormel (Geo)	37.25	+1.25
Household Intl	40.6875	+0.0625
Houston Inds	-	-
Humana	18.1875	+0.6875
IBM	168.375	-1.375
Illinova Corp	23.6875	-0.0625
Illinois Tool	66.9375	-1.8125
INCO	12.4375	-0.1875
Ind Comm Bank	15	-0.25
Ingersoll Rand	49.375	+1.75
Inland Steel	16	0
Intel Corp	117.063	-2.875
Intergraph	5.65625	+0.125
Interlake	-	-
Intl Flav & Fr	41.125	-0.0625
Intl Multifoods	21.75	+0.0625
Intl Paper	40.9375	-1.0625
Interpublic	75.125	+0.3125
Jefferson Plt	69.8125	+1.9375
Johnson & J	85.4375	+0.0625
K Mart	17.4375	-0.0625
K Tel Int	9.875	-0.0625
Kaiser Alum	5	+0
Kellogg	37.75	+0.75
KLA Instruments	53.8125	+2
Kennametal	20.5	-0.625
Kerr-McGee	28.875	+0.25
KeyCorp	32.0625	-0.1875
Kimberly-Clark	47.5	+0.25
King World Prod	26.625	+0.1875
Knight Ridder	50.125	-0.0625
Kroger	63.25	-1.4375
LSI Logic	25.25	-0.625
Lehman Brother	55.8125	+2.8125
Legget & Platt	20.75	-0.1875
Leucadia Natl	29.75	-0.0625
Lilly (Eli)	93.8125	-0.6875
Limited Inc	36	+0.5
Linear Technol	44.75	+0.9375
Lincoln Nat	93.375	-1.3125
Litton	54.8125	-1.6875
Liz Claiborne	32.6875	-1
Lockheed Corp	36.5625	-1.125
Loews Corp	78	-0.1875
Lone Star	32.75	-0.25
Longs Drug Strs	35.5	-0.6875
Loral Corp	18.3125	+0.3125
Louisiana Pacit	18.375	+0
Lowe's Co Inc	59.3125	+0
Lucent Tech	102.875	+1.3125
Lubrizol	18.9375	-0.125
Madge	3.5	-0.0625
Mallinckrodt	30.1875	-0.75
Mapco Inc	13.5	-0.125
Marriott	35.5625	-0.4375
Mrsh & McLn	71.6875	+0.875
Masco Corp	26.6875	+0.4375
Massmutual Corp	25.25	-0.0625
Mattel Inc	25.9375	-0.4375
May Dept St	60.6875	+1.4375
Maytag Corp	54.875	-1.1875
McDermott	19.75	-0.1875
McDonalds	86.5625	+1.5625
McGraw Hill	107.625	-1.8125
McKesson Corp	66	-2
Mead Corp	29.75	-0.6875
Medtronic	71	+0.375
Mellon Bk	68.625	+1
Mentor Graphics	13.875	-0.125
Merck Inc	79.75	-1.75
Meredith Corp	33.1875	-0.5625
Merrill Lynch	76.4375	-0.3125
Micron Technol	57.5	-0.125
Microsoft Corp	151.75	+1.625
Millipore	27.625	-0.25
Mine Safety App	66	-0.75
Minnesota Mine	73.5625	-0.5
Mitchell Energy	12.3125	+0.0625
Mobil Corp	81	-2.1875

	LAST	CHANGE*
Molex Inc	22.875	-0.625
Monarch Macht	7.1875	+0.1875
Monsanto	45.3125	-0.25
Morgan (JP)	111.625	+0.1875
Morton Intl	35.9375	-0.1875
Motorola Inc	67.9375	-2.3125
Murphy Oil	34.125	-0.0625
Nacco Inds	87.3125	-0.75
Nalco Chemical	27.625	-0.5
Nashua Corp	12.125	+0.0625
Natl City Corp	69.6875	-0.1875
Natl Semi	10.1875	-0.3125
Natl Serv Ind	31.875	-0.25
NatWest Bank	124.5	-0.5
Navistar Int	43.75	+0.75
Netscape	78.9375	+1.5
New England El	48.875	+0.1875
News Corp	28.8125	+0.375
NY Times	31.75	+0.75
Newmont Mining	17.3125	+0.125
Niag Mohawk	14.5625	-0.0625
Nicor Inc	38.5	+0.3125
Nike Inc	53.0625	-0.375
NL Industries	9.8125	+0.125
Noble Affil	22.5625	-0.0625
Nokia	134.813	-0.8125
Nordstrom	42.0625	+1.8125
Norfolk Southrn	26	+0.375
Northeast Util	14.875	-0.1875
Northern Telecom	58.5625	+0.5
Novell	19.5	+0.125
Nthn States Pwr	25.6875	-0.125
Northrop	61.75	-0.5625
NSI	8.3125	+0.03125
Occidental Pet	14.875	-0.125
Ogden Corp	25.125	+0.6875
OEA	10.75	-0.375
Ohio Casualty	40.5	+0.125
Olin Corp	12.8125	-0.375
Omnicom Group	69.5	+0.25
Oneok Inc	27.4375	+0.8125
Oracle Systems	38.625	-0.625
Oryx Energy Co	10.375	0
Oshkosh B'gosh	19.25	+0.25
Overseas Ship	13.25	+1.0625
Owens Corning	31.75	-0.0625
PNC Financial	52.125	+0.0625
PPG Industries	51.5625	-0.5
Paccar Inc	43.25	+1.375
Pac Gas & Elect	31.4375	-0.0625
Pall Corp	21.3125	+0.125
Parker Drilling	2.5	+0
Parker Hannifin	36.6875	-0.4375
Payless Shoe	55	+0.125
Penney(JC)	38.5	+0.375
Pennsyl Pwr Lt	25.8125	+0.375
Pennzoil	12.4375	+0
People's Energy	34	+0.0625
Pepsico	38	+0.4375
Perkin Elmer	93.9375	-0.8125
Pfizer	133.125	+1.1875
Pharmacia & Upj	53.4375	-1.0625
Phelps Dodge	47.8125	-0.6875
Philadel Elec	35.25	-0.375
Philip Morris	38.875	-0.25
Philips Elec	68.875	-0.75
Phillips Pet	38.875	+0.1875
Phycor Inc	5.46875	+0.03125
Pioneer Hi Bred	22.5	-1.0625
Pitney Bowes	64.625	+1.4375
Policy Mgt Sys	38.375	+1.8125
Polycom	19.625	-0.625
Potash Corp	56.875	+0.1875
Potomac El Pwr	24.3125	-0.0625
Procter & Gamble	88.5	-1
Promus Hotel Cor	36	+0.8125
Pub Svc Enterpr	37.6875	-0.3125
Pug Snd Pwr	24.5	+0.375
Quaker Oats	54.875	+0.25
Qualcom	72.375	-0.625
Quanex Corp	17.9375	+0.4375
RJR Nabisco	27.375	+0.0625
Ralston Purina	26.875	-0.0625
Rank Orgnsn ADR	7.625	-0.125
Raychem Corp	22.3125	-0.5
Raytheon A	53.5	+0.625
Raytheon B	54	+0.5625
Reebok Intl	16.0625	-0.0625
Republic NY	45.6875	+0.375
Reynolds Reyn A	18.75	-0.125
Reynolds Metals	42.875	+0.5
Rite Aid Corp	39.625	-1.75
Rockwell Intl	45.375	+0.9375
Rohm & Haas	30.6875	-0.5625
Rouse	22.8125	-0.5625
Rowan	8.5625	-0.0625
Royal Dutch	42.6875	-1.1875
Rubbermaid	33	-0.0625
Ruddick	18.8125	+0.375
Russell Corp	18.4375	-0.0625
Ryder System	27.3125	+0.3125
SPS Technology	41.6875	+0.4375
Safeco Corp	40.7188	+0.53125
Safety-Kleen	14.0625	+0.125
St Paul's Cos	33.0625	+0.6875
Sara Lee Corp	26.625	-0.5625
Schering Plough	55.0625	-0.625
Schlumberger	48.6875	+0.125
Scientif Atlanta	31.625	-0.8125
Scripps	41.9375	+0.9375
Seagate Tech	29.9375	+1.125
Seagram	46.375	+0.0625
Sears Roebuck	41.125	+0.5
Sempra Energy	20.9375	-0.0625
Sensormatic Elec	11.125	+0.625
Sequent Computer	8.4375	-0.03125
Service Corp I	14.8125	-0.5625
Service Master	18.625	-0.0625
Shell Trans	32.625	-0.9375
Sherwin Wllms	23.3125	-0.75
Shoney's Inc	2.1875	-0.125
Sigma Aldrich	25.75	-0.625
Silicon Graphics	15.5625	-0.375
Skyline Corp	29.25	+0
Smith Intl	24.375	-0.125
SmKline Bchm A	69.25	-1.875
Snap-On-Tools	28.75	+0.5
Sonat	24.375	-0.9375
Sonoco Prods	24.4375	-0.0625
Sony Corp ADR	74	-0.6875
Southdown	47.125	-0.0625
Southern Co	24.6875	-0.375
Southw Airlines	30.125	+0
SBC Sthwstn Bell	52.1875	-0.6875
Spring Inds	31.9375	-1.3125
Sprint Corp	86	+0.1875
Standard Prods	15.125	+0.125
Stanley Works	24.4375	+0.125
Storage Technol	34.375	-0.4375
Sun America	1.0625	+0
Sunbeam Corp	5.8125	+0
Sun Company	31.125	+0.6875
Sundstrand	67.6875	+0
Sun Microsystms	97.25	-0.0625
Sunshine Mining	0.625	+0
Suntrust	68.25	+0.3125
Supervalu	23.25	-1
Symantec	18.1875	+0.125
Sysco Corp	28.0625	-0.1875
TJX Cos Inc	30.1875	+1.625
TRW Inc	48.1875	+0.9375
Tab Products	5.0625	-0.0625
Tandy Corp	57.25	+1.625
Telecom Corp	61.5	-1.3125
Telefonos de Mex	56.875	-0.3125
Telef De Espana	135.563	-1.8125
Temple Inland	58.8125	-1.125
Tenneco	29.5	-0.5625
Tenet Health	19.875	+0.1875
Teradyne	48.875	+0.875
Tesoro Pet	7.9375	-0.0625
Texaco	46.4375	-0.125
Texas Instrmnts	92.25	+3.0625
Texas Utilities	42.3125	-0.125
Textron	76.0625	-1.9375
Thomas & Betts	40.75	-0.9375
ThreeCom	30.6875	-0.75
Time Warner	63.75	-0.5625
Times-Mirror	58.8125	+1
Timken	18.625	+0.9375
Torchmark	33.1875	+0.0625
Tosco Corp	20.5	-0.1875
Toys R Us	14.625	+0.5
Transamerica	72.875	+0.3125
Transco Energy	58	-1
Tribune	66.6875	+0.375
Triton Energy	5.375	+0
TWA	6	+0.0625
Tyco Intl Ltd	73.1875	-1.25
Tyler	5.625	+0.125
UAL Corp	62	+2.25
USG Corp	50.1875	+0.0625
UST Inc	28.5625	-0.625
USX Marathon	20.1875	-0.5
USX-US Steel	25.375	+0
Ultramar Diam	19.75	+0
Unicom Corp	35.0625	-0.5
Unilever PLC	36.0625	+0.0625
Unilever NV	72	-0.4375
Union Camp	64.9375	-1.9375
Union Carbide	41.6875	-2.3125
Union Pacific	46.1875	-0.6875
Unisys Corp	30	+0.1875
USAIR Group	48.75	+1.375
US Home	34.625	+0.125
US Trust	74.75	-0.125
US West	55.875	+2.5625
United Tech	124.625	+0.75
Unocal Corp	28.6875	+0.5625
VF Corp	48	-0.625
VMRX Pharmaceutic	1.1875	-0.0625
Valero Energy	17.5	-0.0625
Varian Assoc	33.3125	+1.5
Viacom Inc	87.5	+0.1875
Vishay	13.25	+0.3125
Vulcan Materials	134.875	+0.125
Wachovia	84.8125	-0.25
Walgreen	30.875	-1.125
Wal-Mart Stores	86.875	-0.25
Warner-Lambert	68.875	+0.0625

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.080	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (1.3.99)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	BANKNOTES Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.3120	4.3816	—	—	4.3478
U.S. dollar	4.0141	4.0789	3.95	4.13	4.0470
EU euro	4.4117	4.4829	—	—	4.4468
German mark	2.2542	2.2906	2.23	2.32	2.2737
Pound sterling	6.4354	6.5392	6.33	6.63	6.5015
French franc	0.6722	0.6831	0.66	0.69	0.6779
Japanese yen (100)	3.5658	3.4201	3.31	3.46	3.3923
Dutch florin	2.0020	2.0343	1.98	2.06	2.0179
Swiss franc	2.7686	2.8133	2.73	2.85	2.7924
Swedish krona	0.4898	0.4977	0.48	0.50	0.4933
Norwegian krone	0.5078	0.5160	0.50	0.52	0.5115
Danish krone	0.5931	0.6027	0.58	0.61	0.5980
Finnish mark	0.7415	0.7535	0.73	0.76	0.7479
Canadian dollar	2.6606	2.7036	2.62	2.74	2.6828
Australian dollar	2.4948	2.5351	2.46	257	2.5041
S. African rand	0.6511	0.6617	0.59	0.67	0.6564
Belgian franc (10)	1.0930	1.1107	1.08	1.12	1.1023
Austrian schilling (10)	3.2041	3.2558	3.16	3.30	3.2317
Italian lira (1000)	2.2784	2.3152	2.25	2.34	2.2966
Jordanian dinar	5.6458	5.7369	5.40	5.90	5.6920
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.15	1.22	1.1854
Irish punt	5.5982	5.6885	5.52	5.77	5.6463
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6498	2.6926	2.61	2.73-	2.6726

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem
Tel. 02-624-4963 Fax. 02-625-9515
http://www.commstock.co.il
E-mail: commstock@pobox.com

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Wash Gas Light	24.125	+0.1875
Washington Post	553.938	+3.8125
Waste Mgmt Inc	46.4375	-2.4375
Watkins-Johnson	25.75	+3.125
Weis Markets	36.4375	+0.0625
Wells Fargo	37.0625	+0.3125
Wendy's Intl	24.375	-0.4375
Westvaco	21.6875	-0.875
Weyerhaeuser	55.8125	+0.0625
Whirlpool	41	-2.5
Whitman	19	+0
Williams Co	35.5625	-1.4375
Winn Dixie Strs	43.0625	-0.75
Woolworth	4.9375	+0
World Comm	80.6875	-1.8125
Worthington Ind	12.8125	+0.125
Wrigley	93.25	+0.25
Xerox	55.5	+0.3125
Yahoo	160.125	+5.625
Yellow Freight	18.0625	+0.1875

LONDON

Allied Domecq	473	-10.5
Allied Zurich	902	-17
BAT Inds	580	+8
BT	1063	-16
Barclays	1694	-6
Bass	852	-19
Boots	995	-8
British Airways	446.25	-12.75
Comm Union plc	685	-35.5
Diageo	669.5	+0
General Electric	516	+20
Glaxo	1816	-75
Halifax	735	-26.5
HSBC (75p shs)	1816	-5
ICI	529.5	-15.5
Land Securities	823.5	+14
Lloyds Bank	883.5	-9.5
Marks & Spencer	411.25	-9
NatWest Bank	1250	-42
Prudential	820	-26.5
Reuters	845	-23
Sainsbury	381.5	-0.5
Shell Transport	334.75	-13.25
Tyco Intl	4450	+0
Unilever	597	-1.5
Zeneca	2531	-61

PARIS

Accor	209.3	-2.7
Air Liquide	132.8	-3
Alcatel Alsthom	96.95	-1.65
Euro Disney	1.24	+0.02
Michelin B	38.8	-1.8
Moulinex	10.5	-0.3
Paribas	79.4	+0.9
Pernod Ricard	58.5	-0.3
Peugeot	120.7	-0.8
Saint Gobain	144	+2.4

FRANKFURT

Bayer	31.3	-0.95
Daimler-Benz	-	
Lufthansa	20	-0.05
Mannesmann	-	
Metallgesellschaft	16.6	-0.2
Volkswagen	56.9	-2

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 1-MAR-99)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sal (Basket) (1)	4.3478	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	4.047	0
British Pound (1)	6.4975	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.2737	0
French Franc (1)	0.6779	0
Japanese Yen (100)	3.3923	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.7924	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.6828	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.2966	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.692	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9324.78	+18.2
DJ Transport	3225.86	+18.43
DJ Utils	291.02	-2.85
DJ Comp	2878.3	+2.19
NYSE Industr	726.16	-2.54
NYSE Transport	474.66	-0.28
NYSE Comp	585.43	-1.03
S&P 100	618.06	-0.35
S&P Spot Index	1236.16	-2.17
Israel Index	293.86	+4.91

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	6060.9	-114.2
Tokyo Nikkei	14221.7	-145.8
Singapore all-share index	386.45	0
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	10020.4	+162
Israel Index	293.86	+4.91
Paris CAC 40	4032.65	-60.89
DAX	4311.81	-46.77
Madrid	890.41	-1.89
Swiss Market Index	6995	-58.8
Sydney	2911.1	+6.3
Milan	1503.47	-18.1

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.6092	+0.0104
Mar.future (CME)	1.6084	+0.0072
D-mark: spot	1.7951	+0.0227
Mar.future (CME)	0.557	-0.0066
S-franc: spot	1.463	+0.014
Mar.future (CME)	0.6845	-0.0077
Yen: spot	119.81	+0.61
Mar.future (CME)	0.008367	-4.5e-005
CanDlr: spot	1.5219	+0.0132
Mar.future (CME)	0.6569	-0.0052
AusDlr: spot	0.6192	+0.0063
Mar.future (CME)	0.6192	+0.0011
F-franc: spot	6.024	+0.0762
It Lira: spot	1778.5	+23
Nlg: spot	2.0238	+0.0256
AutShlg: spot	12.6299	+0.0978
Rand: spot	6.165	-0.01
EURO: spot	1.0989	-0.0158

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (CEC)	1279	+13
Coffee (Mar) (CEC)	102.65	+0.15
Wheat (Mar) (CBOT)	244.5	+7.25
Soybean (Mar) (CBOT)	454.5	+4.75
Orange Juice (Mar)(CEC)	87	+4.25
Crude Oil (Mar)(NYMEX)	11.96	0
Bonds Mar.future	12019	-28
S and P Mar.future	1239	+3.5

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (LCE)	896	-1
Coffee (Mar) (LCE)	1750	+35
Sugar (May) (LCE)	214.1	-3.9
Brent crude oil (Apr)(IPE)	10.73	-0.16

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	5.55	-0.09

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Apr)	287.7	-0.8
Silver (Mar)	5.528	-0.107
Platinum (Apr)	360.1	-1.6
Palladium (Mar)	350	-0.6
High-grade copper (Mar)	0.616	-0.0075

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	287.05	+0.25
Gold PM fix	286.7	-0.35
Silver fix	562	+4

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date
(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 1-MAR-99)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Amona, 9 Leib Yaffe, 673-1901; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Maccabi, 2 Balfour, 629-9956; Superpharm Ministore, 4 Shlomo Hamelech, 696-0106.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Superpharm, 3 Ostshinsky, Kfar Sava, 765-8889.
Netanya: Center Pharm, 1 King David, 884-1531.
Haifa: Super Pharm Neveh Sha'anan, 54 Trumpeldor, 823-2569.
Krayot area: Super Pharm Kiryon, 44 Hapalmah, Kiryat Bialik, 877-9320.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 954-9903. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (internal, obstetrics); Shaare Zedek (surgery, ENT); Hadassah Ein Kerem (orthopedics, pediatrics, ophthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	100
FIRE	102
FIRST AID	101

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:
Ashdod* 8551333, Ashkelon 6551332, Beersheba* 6274767, Beit Shemesh 6523133, Dan Region* 5793333, Eilat* 6332444, Haifa* 8512233, Jerusalem* 6523133, Karmiel* 9985444, Kfar Sava* 9902222, Nahariya* 9912333, Netanya* 8604444, Petah Tikva* 9311111, Rehovot* 9451333, Rishon* 9642333, Safed 6920333, Tel Aviv* 5460111, Tiberias* 6792444
* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

WHERE TO GO

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هكذا من الأصل

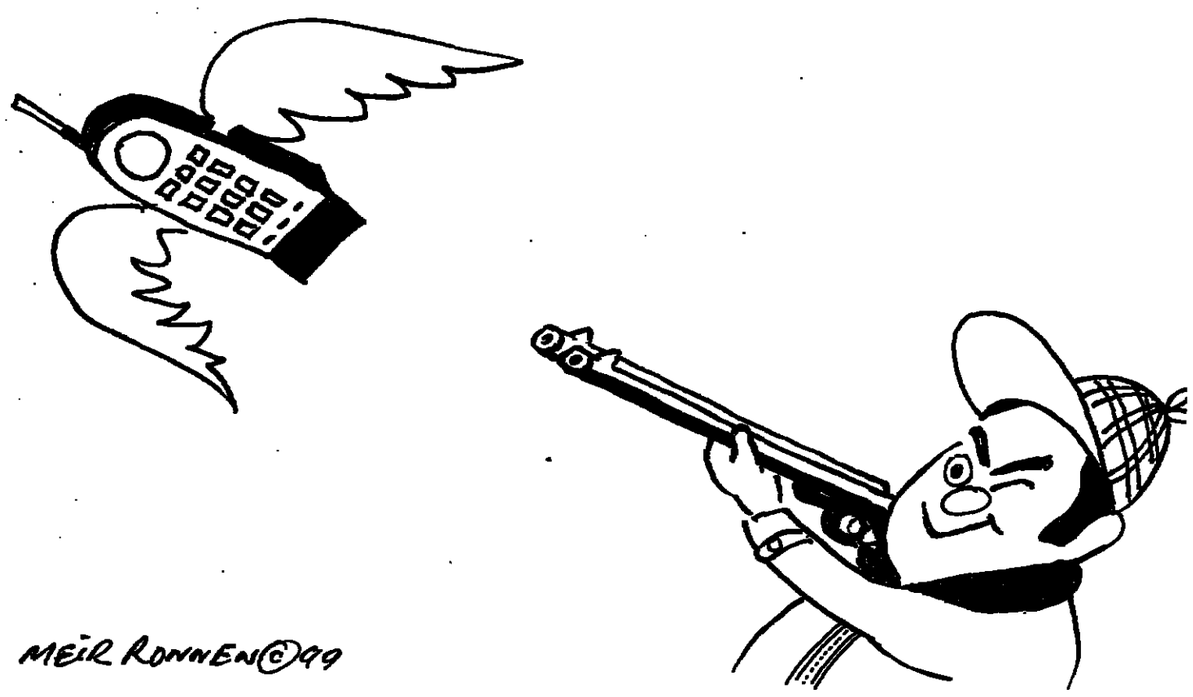
هكذا من الأصل

Hunting for Italy's biggest prize

BIG DEAL



By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV



Every July, Roberto Colaninno travels across the world to shoot ducks, geese, hares and tern in the Patagonia region of southern Argentina. Now, Olivetti SpA's chief executive is stalking bigger prey right at home.

Colaninno is pursuing Europe's biggest takeover, a hostile, $58 billion bid for Italy's largest company, Telecom Italia SpA.

By stalking Telecom Italia, which is worth seven times as much as Olivetti, the 55-year-old put his own future on the line, as well as those of both companies, investors said.

To help finance the bid, Olivetti is selling $7.4 billion in new stock and convertible bonds – roughly equal to its current market value. The biggest single shareholder, Bell SA, is borrowing money to maintain its 15 percent stake. While Bell's shareholders are close to Colaninno, they wouldn't forgive him if this expense isn't justified, investors said.

"Colaninno is taking on a big risk," said Paolo Rizzo, who manages about 440 million euros ($483 million) in Italian shares at Credit Agricole-Indosuez in Milan. "If the takeover fails, he may well stop being CEO."

That risk was never likely to have deterred him, his friends said. Colaninno, a former tax accountant with a reputation for turning around unprofitable companies, declined to be interviewed for this article.

"Colaninno likes a challenge," said Franco De Benedetti, Olivetti's former chief executive officer who is now a member of Italy's Senate.

"He's a doggedly determined person who makes himself respected by completing whatever mission he sets out to do."

At Olivetti, which he has run since 1996, Colaninno boosted the stock price eight-fold by selling unprofitable personal- computer and computer-services businesses to focus on cellular telecommunications. He turned the company's mobile-phone network into Europe's second-largest – after Telecom Italia Mobile SpA, a unit of Telecom Italia.

At the same time, Colaninno asserted his independence from Olivetti's former chairman and one-time largest shareholder, Carlo De Benedetti, who had named him CEO. De Benedetti, Franco's younger brother, eventually sold his stake in the company.

A FEW months before bidding for Telecom Italia, Colaninno, a father of two, gathered a group of investors from regions around his home town of Mantua, in the foggy flatlands east of Milan, to buy Olivetti shares.

The Bell group, in which a company led by Colaninno is the biggest investor, includes some of his Argentina-bound hunting buddies. Bell, which is registered in Luxembourg for tax reasons, is by far Olivetti's largest shareholder, giving the CEO enough freedom for daring moves such as Telecom Italia bid.

Once Colaninno sets his mind to do something, he can pursue it doggedly. After graduating from the University of Parma three decades ago, for example, he applied to work at the biggest bank in his home town of Mantua, Banca Agricola Mantovana. He didn't get that job, but 20 years later, in 1986, he did get a position at the bank – as a member of the board.

In the intervening years, he worked as a tax accountant and later as the chief accountant at Fiaam Filter, a maker of oil and air filters for cars. He became Fiaam's CEO in 1971, negotiating the company's sale to Turner & Newall Plc of the UK.

When the British investors pulled out in 1981, Colaninno found a new buyer – Carlo De Benedetti.

De Benedetti was a former Fiat SpA executive on his way to becoming one of the most audacious European corporate raiders of the 1980s. He already controlled the pasta maker Buitoni SA and the machinery company Sasib SpA – and, since 1978, Olivetti SpA.

De Benedetti, who declined to be interviewed for this story, added Fiaam to his other auto-parts businesses within Sogefi SpA and named Colaninno chief executive. Under him, Sogefi grew from 15 billion lire ($8.5 million at current exchange rates) in sales and 150 workers in 1981 to 935 billion lire and 4,500 workers in 30 factories in 11 countries in 1997.

Through acquisitions and joint ventures with companies such as Krupp AG of Germany and Arvin Industries Inc. of the US, he built Europe's second-largest maker of automotive filters and its third-largest maker of suspension parts.

Meanwhile, De Benedetti was transforming Olivetti from a maker of typewriters and office furniture into Europe's No. 1 personal-computer manufacturer. By the mid-1980s, its stylish computers captured 20% of the market.

In the late '80s, the fortunes of Sogefi and Olivetti parted – while Sogefi continued to grow, Olivetti began to slide.

With De Benedetti distracted by new financial adventures – in 1988 a hostile bid for Societe Generale de Belgique was defeated after a six-month battle, and from 1988 to 1990 he fought other businessmen for control of the publisher Mondadori Editore SpA – it missed the move toward cheaper "commodity" PCs.

IN 1991, Olivetti lost money for the first time in 13 years, and wouldn't make money again until 1997. Before it returned to profit, cumulative losses reached 2.5 trillion lire and the board forced De Benedetti to resign as chairman and chief executive.

When he left in 1996, De Benedetti appointed a 38-year-old protege, Francesco Caio, to run the company. Caio, however, lasted only 70 days before resigning over interference by his mentor, De Benedetti then tapped Colaninno as the new CEO.

At the time, many Italian newspapers dismissed Colaninno a provincial manager and a De Benedetti stooge, but he soon imposed his own mark on the company.

While De Benedetti had picked telecommunications as a growth business, and in 1994 had bid for and won the license to set up a cell-phone company to compete with Telecom Italia, Colaninno accelerated the move.

For De Benedetti and most Olivetti managers, mobile phones were an adjunct to the computer operations. Colaninno, having already switched from auto parts to computers, preferred a clean break with the past.

Within a year of taking control of Olivetti, he concluded that Italy couldn't compete with low-cost Asian countries in assembling personal computers and sold the PC business to private investors. A year later, he sold Olivetti's computer service and software unit to Wang Laboratories Inc.

That let him focus his attention and Olivetti's resources on Omnitel Pronto Italia SpA, the cell-phone business, and it paid off. Omnitel has signed up 6.5 million customers, more than the mobile-phone units at France Telecom SA, Deutsche Telekom AG and British Telecommunications Plc.

Omnitel's aggressive sales effort has helped make Italy the biggest mobile phone market in Europe, with 22 million customers.

Colaninno raised money to build Omnitel by selling a 49.9% stake in Olivetti's telecommunications businesses to Mannesmann AG of Germany for 2.4 billion deutsche marks ($1.3 billion) in 1997.

The businesses, owned by an Olivetti company called Oliman NV, include Infostrada SpA, which competes with Telecom Italia on conventional fixed-line telephone service.

Mannesmann, which also helped Olivetti underwrite a share sale last year, now says it is ready to buy the rest of Oliman for 14.9 billion marks, to ease antitrust regulators' concerns about Olivetti's bid for Telecom Italia.

"Colaninno may be thinking he has extracted as much value as possible from Omnitel-Infostrada, while Telecom Italia, with its inefficiencies, still presents big opportunities for improvement and creating new value," said Patrizio Pazzaglia, who manages $90 million at Nusa SIM in Rome.

If he succeeds in bagging Italy's biggest company, Colaninno will wind up with a trophy bigger than anything to be found in Patagonia.

(Bloomberg)

THE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

7.3 Everything in Israel has political ramifications, so it's hardly surprising that the Radisson Moriah Global Lady Executive Club is hosting an evening of economics spiced with politics under the title of **The connection between prime and primaries**. The event at the Radisson Moriah, Tel Aviv will feature personalities such as Communications Minister Limor Livnat, MKs Yael Dayan and Anat Maor, Knesset hopeful Nehama Ronen and executive ladies not quite as well known to the public such as Sarita Lahavi general manager of Hanor Discount, Leah Atar, general manager of Compro Systems and Ronit Silon who chairs the forum of female industrial managers. For further details call Ilana Colodro 03–5198805/6.

7.3 **Wars, Revolutions and Generational Identity** is the title of a two-day international conference to be hosted by the Yitzhak Rabin Center for Israel Studies at Tel Aviv University. The conference will commemorate the 77th birthday of the late prime minister who was assassinated in November 1995 at the conclusion of a peace rally. The conference taking place at the Ettinger Hall in the Gilman Building on the TAU campus, begins with the impact of World War I, and continues to World War II, the Vietnam generation, revolutions in the Arab world, generational changes amongst Palestinians, the generation of the first Israelis, immigrants, changes in religious Zionism and the "Rabin Children" as a metaphor for a new generational identity.

9.3 Every boss wants to get the most out of his employees, and the two-day seminar at the Dan Panorama Tel Aviv on **Strategic Management of Human Resources** is geared towards that aim. Some 60 speakers from Israel and abroad will present individual papers and participate in panel discussions on topics such as: the human resources manager as a strategic partner; the place of institutions of higher education in the development of human resources for the next decade; coaching, mentoring and information management; the human resources manager as an internal consultant in the organization; developments and innovations in testing ability in Israel and abroad; the war for talent; contract labor; employee retainment; managing human resources in small companies; unemployment – facing realities; EAP – employee assistant programs; coping with different wage systems; thinking towards the future. For further details and registration, contact the Israel management Center 03-6957202.

9.3 With shopping on the Internet becoming a way of life, retailers are getting more than a little anxious about their future prospects. To shed some light on the subject, Shenkar College is sponsoring a study day on **Retail in the Third Millenium – Revolution or More of the Same**, at Gan Oranim in Tel Aviv. Topics tabled for discussion include: strategic directions in the retailing field in Israel; supermarket chains in Israel – which direction?; transformation of distribution by suppliers to distribution by supermarket chains; entrance of international groups to local supermarket chains; power centers as an alternative to small centers; the supermarket of the year 2000; and customer preferences based on marketing research results. The study day will wind up with a panel discussion on alternative retail systems. The speakers are all senior executives with major retail operations.

17.3 The Tel Aviv Hilton is the venue for the **MBA Fair** at which admission officers of American, European and Australian Master of Business Administration programs will meet with Israeli candidates interested in receiving the degree which today is a passport to executive status in the world of business. With over 1,250 different MBA degrees being offered around the world, it is not easy for candidates to choose the right one. The goal of the Tel Aviv MBA Fair is to provide candidates with maximum data so as to enable them to make informed choices. The Fair which takes places between 3 – 8 p.m. is basically an introduction. Special interview sessions will be organized for the day after the Fair. Interviews will be by appointment only and can be reserved by e-mail at mbaevents@infonie.fr or via fax to MBA Events Paris 33–1–45–561571.

17.3 The English Speaking Friends of Tel Aviv University in conjunction with TAU's Department of the Arts is presenting an eight-session, spring seminar beginning with a lecture discussion led by Shmulik Dovdevani on **bedonistic paradigm in Israeli cinema**. Subjects to be discussed in future sessions include: TV in Israel; land and climate in Israeli cinema; nostalgic and collective identity in Israeli cinema; films & TV – TV dramas/documentaries; representation of the Jew in American cinema; TV in Israel in the global era; The disappearance of Yiddish culture – Laura Adler and what happened. For further details and registration contact Anat Halevy 03–640 9487; 03–640 6371.

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Starting February 10 and continuing until March 10, 1999, one fully-completed entry form will be drawn each day and awarded a beautiful coffee table book from Steimatzky. The names of the winners will be published daily in the newspaper. Daily prize winners remain eligible for the Grand Prize Drawing.

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Every day for the next 6 weeks, (January 22 - March 4) The Jerusalem Post will print one of the six cartoon coupons - shown to the right - in the newspaper. Collect a different cartoon coupon each day, by cutting it out and pasting it on the entry form. When all 6 cartoons have been attached to the corresponding spaces on the form, send to:
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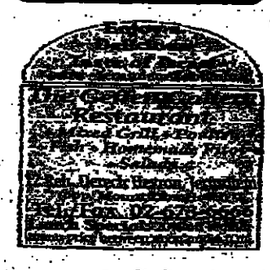
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French clubs vie for 1st UEFA Cup triumph

PARIS (Reuters) – French clubs set out today to make up for the country's European Cup failure this season by securing three of the fourth berths in the UEFA Cup semifinals.

Olympique Marseille, Girondins Bordeaux and Olympique Lyon, the top three in the league standings, are bidding to become the first French side to win the tournament.

Marseille are at home to Celta Vigo, Bordeaux entertain Parma and Lyon travel to Bologna in a quarterfinal line-up comprising only French, Italian and Spanish teams.

The Italians could also bag three semifinal places with AS Roma playing Atletico Madrid away in today's first leg.

Bordeaux, who eliminated AC Milan on their way to the 1996 final, face arguably the toughest task against favorites Parma, winners in 1995 and currently second in Serie A despite being hit by injuries and suspensions.

Parma's French World Cup midfielder Alain Boghossian is sidelined but Dino Baggio, having recovered from a foot injury, should return along with Argentine playmaker Juan Veron who has been suspended.

"Bordeaux will be very tough," Parma coach Alberto Malesani said. "They play attacking football. We'll have to break up their game in midfield and then take off in attack with Veron and our strikers."

Bordeaux are the best footballing side in France with the league's top two scorers in Sylvain Wiltord and Lilian Laslandes.

Their Spanish defender Victor Torres-Mestre is injured. He will be replaced by Romain Ferrier.

Playmaker Ali Benarbia and captain Michel Pavon, both suspended at the weekend in the league, return to boost the Bordeaux midfield.

Coach Elie Baup said: "The most important thing is not to be overawed by Parma's organized game and the quality of their players... a dozen took part in the World Cup."

Only right back Francois Grenet, then a young substitute, remains from Bordeaux's exploit against Milan at the same stage of the competition three years ago.

Christophe Dugarry, who scored twice when Bordeaux overturned a 2-0 first leg deficit with a 3-0 home win against Milan, is now helping Marseille add the trophy to their 1993 European Cup triumph.

Marseille's form has dipped badly this year after a strong November and December. But they went back to the top of the league with a 1-0 home win over Strasbourg on Thursday as Bordeaux were held 0-0 at Nantes.

Former Barcelona players Dugarry and Laurent Blanc are expecting Celta, who eliminated England's Aston Villa and Liverpool in previous rounds, to attack today.

"Celta Vigo have the reputation of producing the best football in the Spanish league in an attacking style very similar to ours," Blanc said.

Marseille need to improve their finishing if they are to overcome the Spanish side after they squandered a string of chances against 10-man Strasbourg.

Celta midfielder Claude Makelele is unlikely to play against his old club Marseille after suffering a calf strain in training.

His advice to coach Victor Fernandez, who welcomes back inspirational Russian midfielder Alexander Mostovoi from injury, is that Marseille "are probably weakest down the wings."

Celta are arguably Spain's best hope of a place in the last four. Atletico, under new coach Carlos Aguiar, face a Roma side who played brilliantly in Saturday's 1-0 defeat of AC Milan.

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER – Premier League, yesterday's result: Leicester 1, Leeds 2. Leeds move to fourth place in the standings.

Nedved hat trick lifts Rangers

NEW YORK (AP) – Petr Nedved, centering the top line in place of the injured Wayne Gretzky, had three goals and an assist as the New York Rangers beat the Philadelphia Flyers 6-5 Sunday.

Nedved broke a 5-5 tie with a power-play goal with 6:28 left in regulation as the Rangers came back to win after the Flyers had scored three straight goals to tie the game in the third period.

Adam Graves had two goals and an assist as the Rangers won their second straight since Gretzky was sidelined Friday by a neck injury that is expected to keep him out for at least two weeks.

Capitals 4, Penguins 3

Andrei Nikolishin beat two defenders and stretched goaltender Tom Barrasso flat on the ice to score the game-winning goal with 7:29 to play to give Washington the win.

The victory snapped a two-game losing streak for the Capitals and moved them within five points of Boston and Florida, who are tied for eighth place in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

The loss ended an 0-3 road trip for the Penguins, who are 2-5 following a 10-game winning streak.

Stars 1, Kings 0

Joe Nieuwendyk scored in the game's first minute, and Ed Belfour made 18 saves as host Dallas remained unbeaten in their last 16 games against Los Angeles.

The Stars haven't lost to the Kings since April 6, 1995, a 3-2 defeat at Los Angeles. Dallas is 10-0-6 against Los Angeles over the 16-game span.

Belfour had to come up with several difficult stops in the final 10 minutes for his 44th career shutout and fourth of the season.

Devils 4, Coyotes 1

Linemates Petr Sykora and Jason Arnott scored goals to lead host New Jersey past struggling Phoenix.

Denis Pederson and Brian Rolston also scored for the Devils, who extended their unbeaten streak to three at 2-0-1.

Blues 3, Blackhawks 1

Pierre Turgeon scored a pair of power play goals in the first period to lead visiting St. Louis over Chicago. In the last eight games, Turgeon has scored six goals and assisted on four.

Scott Young assisted on both Turgeon goals, and now has 16 points in his last 17 games (seven goals and nine assists).

Sabres 2, Canucks 0

Dwayne Roloson recorded his second career shutout in leading host Buffalo to victory.

Phoenix 1 0 0–1
New Jersey 2 1 1–4

First Period–1, Phoenix, Corkum 8, 1:47. 2, New York, Pederson 10 (Pandolfo), 8:44. 3, New Jersey, Sykora 21 (Arnott, Elias), 18:02 (pp). Second Period–4, New Jersey, Arnott 16 (Sykora), 18:44. Third Period–5, New Jersey, Rolston 19 (Pandolfo), 10:56. Shots on goal–Phoenix 7-10-10–27. New Jersey 14-7-4–25. Goalies–Phoenix, Khabibulin. New Jersey, Brodeur. A–18,214.

Philadelphia 2 1 2–5
N.Y. Rangers 2 3 1–6

First Period–1, Philadelphia, Lindros 36 (Jones, McGillis), 7:30. 2, New York, Graves 28, 8:16 (pp). 3, Philadelphia, Jones 16 (Desjardins, Lindros), 19:25. 4, New York, Nedved 13 (Samuelsson), 19:33. Second Period–5, New York, Fraser 1 (Savard, Stevens), 3:57 (pp). 6, New York, Nedved 14 (Graves, Leetch), 6:09 (pp). 7, New York, Graves 29 (MacLean, Nedved), 12:59. 8, Philadelphia, Langkow 12, 17:16 (sh). Third Period–9, Philadelphia, LeClair 38 (Lindros, McGillis), 1:21 (pp). 10, Philadelphia, Renberg 9 (Brind'Amour, Kovalenko), 8:41 (pp). 11, New York, Nedved 15 (Leetch, MacLean), 13:32 (pp). Shots on goal–Philadelphia 7-10-9–26. New York 8-16-2–26. Goalies–Philadelphia, Vanbiesbrouck. New York, Richter. A–18,200.

Pittsburgh 0 2 1–3
Washington 1 2 1–4

First Period–1, Washington, Svejkovsky 5 (Juneau, Oates), 15:48 (pp). Second Period–2, Washington, Gonchar 14 (Svejkovsky, Oates), 4:04 (pp). 3, Washington, Black 9 (Nikolishin, Klee), 8:02. 4, Pittsburgh, Galanov 4 (Titov, Kovalev), 10:48. 5, Pittsburgh, Brown 5 (Titov, Hatcher), 16:48 (pp). Third Period–6, Pittsburgh, Straka 29 (Jagr, Titov), 7:42. 7, Washington, Nikolishin 5 (Konowalchuk, Black), 12:31. Shots on goal–Pittsburgh 3-9-13–25. Washington 12-6-8–26. Goalies–Pittsburgh, Barrasso. Washington, Kolzig. A–19,740.

Los Angeles 0 0 0–0
Dallas 1 0 0–1

First Period–1, Dallas, Nieuwendyk 13 (Verbeek, Reid), :31. Second Period–None. Third Period–None. Shots on goal–Los Angeles 7-4-7–18. Dallas 11-17-7–35. Goalies–Los Angeles, Fiset. Dallas, Belfour. A–16,928.

St. Louis 3 0 0–3
Chicago 0 1 0–1

First Period–1, St. Louis, Turgeon 22 (Young), 6:08 (pp). 2, St. Louis, Turgeon 23 (Young, Demitra), 9:47 (pp). 3, St. Louis, Rheaume 9 (Conroy), 14:10. Second Period–4, Chicago, Olczyk 6 (Amonte, Manson), 5:05. Third Period–None. Shots on goal–St. Louis 13-9-5–27. Chicago 6-11-10–27. Goalies–St. Louis, Johnson. Chicago, Thibault. A–16,475.

Buffalo 0 1 1–2
Vancouver 0 0 0–0

First Period–None. Second Period–1, Buffalo, Cunneyworth 2, 3:26. Third Period–2, Buffalo, Grosek 15 (Zhitnik), 19:26 (en). Shots on goal–Buffalo 7-4-7–18. Vancouver 1-6-8–15. Goalies–Buffalo, Roloson. Vancouver, Snow. A–14,760.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	33	20	8	74	181	153
Philadelphia	30	17	13	73	187	137
Pittsburgh	32	20	7	71	187	163
N.Y. Rangers	25	28	7	57	169	170
N.Y. Islanders	19	35	7	45	143	183
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	33	18	8	74	170	128
Toronto	34	21	5	73	194	176
Buffalo	28	20	12	68	163	132
Boston	25	24	10	60	154	140
Montreal	24	29	8	56	144	158
Southeast Division						
Carolina	27	23	12	66	160	154
Florida	22	22	16	60	153	159
Washington	25	30	5	55	153	159
Tampa Bay	13	41	5	31	123	214

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	31	25	6	68	183	158
St. Louis	25	24	10	60	165	151
Nashville	21	33	6	48	141	193
Chicago	17	37	8	42	136	196
Northwest Division						
Colorado	30	22	8	68	163	147
Edmonton	23	28	9	55	164	156
Calgary	21	29	10	52	155	174
Vancouver	19	33	9	47	148	189
Pacific Division						
Dallas	38	11	9	85	171	116
Phoenix	30	20	10	70	149	136
Anaheim	27	25	9	63	164	150
San Jose	20	27	14	54	135	144
Los Angeles	23	33	5	51	140	162

NBA box scores

Orlando 35 11 21 11–78
Miami 17 22 19 26–84

ORLANDO (78) Outlaw 6-8 0-3 12, Grant 4-11 0-0 8, Austin 6-10 1-2 13, Anderson 9-15 1-1 25, P.Hardaway 3-14 3-4 10, Doleac 0-1 0-0 0, Armstrong 1-6 5-5 8, Strong 0-3 0-2 0, Harpring 1-1 0-0 2, Schayes 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 30-70 10-17 78.

MIAMI (84) Strickland 0-4 0-0 0, Brown 6-13 0-0 12, Mourning 5-20 14-15 24, Majerle 4-8 2-2 13, Porter 6-10 2-3 17, Walters 2-5 1-1 5, Weatherspoon 1-3 4-4 6, Edwards 2-3 3-3 7. Totals 26-66 26-28 84. Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Orlando 45 (Outlaw 11), Miami 44 (Brown 9). Assists–Orlando 21 (P.Hardaway 8), Miami 16 (Walters 6). Total fouls–Orlando 23, Miami 19. Technicals–Orlando Illegal Defense, Miami Illegal Defense. Flagrant foul–Walters. A–15,200.

New York 22 19 15 12–68
Detroit 20 30 28 11–89

NEW YORK (68) Johnson 5-11 2-5 12, Thomas 1-7 4-6 6, Ewing 3-7 0-2 6, Houston 4-12 4-5 13, Ward 3-8 3-4 10, Camby 2-5 0-1 4, Dudley 0-3 0-0 0, Childs 2-8 0-0 5, Scott 0-1 0-0 0, Wingate 2-4 0-0 4, H.Williams 2-3 0-0 4, Brunson 2-3 0-2 4. Totals 26-72 13-25 68.

DETROIT (89) Hill 2-11 0-0 4, Reid 2-3 0-1 4, Dele 3-8 0-0 6, Dumars 7-11 3-4 21, Hunter 7-12 0-0 16, Vaught 2-3 0-0 4, Stackhouse 3-8 6-8 13, Montross 4-6 1-1 9, Buechler 2-4 2-4 7, J.Williams 1-5 3-4 5, O'Bannon 0-1 0-0 0, Beck 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 33-73 15-22 89.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–New York 50 (Ewing 8), Detroit 55 (Hill 11). Assists–New York 12 (Childs 6), Detroit 24 (Hill 8). Total fouls–New York 21, Detroit 18. A–20,896.

Utah 29 25 25 22–101
San Antonio 17 23 22 25–87

UTAH (101) Russell 5-7 0-0 10, Malone 11-24 8-9 30, Ostertag 1-3 5-6 7, Hornacek 6-9 5-5 18, Stockton 6-9 2-2 14, Keefe 0-3 6-6 6, Eisley 3-6 2-2 8, Foster 2-4 0-0 4, Anderson 1-5 0-0 3, Fuller 0-1 0-0 0, C.King 0-0 0-2 0, Vaughn 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 35-71 29-34 101.

SAN ANTONIO (87) Elliott 3-11 2-4 9, Duncan 10-17 1-4 21, Robinson 3-6 2-4 8, Elie 3-10 2-2 8, A.Johnson 3-7 1-2 7, Kersey 1-5 0-0 2, Rose 2-6 1-2 5, Kerr 1-2 1-1 3, Jackson 2-9 1-1 6, Daniels 4-7 3-6 13, Gaze 1-2 0-0 3, G.King 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 34-83 14-26 87.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Utah 48 (Ostertag 10), San Antonio 54 (Duncan 13). Assists–Utah 24 (Stockton 10), San Antonio 21 (Elie 6). Total fouls–Utah 22, San Antonio 29. Technicals–Utah Illegal Defense, Ostertag, Malone, Foster, Utah coach Sloan, San Antonio coach Popovich 2, Elie. Flagrant fouls–Eisley, Elie. Ejected–San Antonio coach Popovich, Elie. A–18,165.

Philadelphia 17 23 24 23–87
Milwaukee 17 24 12 23–76

PHILADELPHIA (87) Lynch 3-8 0-0 6, Ratliff 2-6 4-6 8, Geiger 7-10 2-2 16, Snow 1-4 2-6 4, Iverson 8-24 9-11 25, Grant 2-6 2-2 6, Hughes 7-9 3-5 17, Thomas 0-1 0-0 0, McKie 2-5 1-2 5, Mahorn 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 32-75 23-34 87.

MILWAUKEE (76) Hill 0-5 2-2 2, Robinson 7-15 0-0 14, Traylor 3-5 0-0 6, Allen 7-12 1-1 16, Brandon 3-15 0-0 6, Del Negro 0-3 0-0 0, D.Curry 2-6 0-0 4, Gilliam 3-6 2-2 8, Johnson 2-5 1-4 5, M.Curry 4-6 1-3 9, Honeycutt 1-2 0-0 2, Perry 2-2 0-0 4. Totals 34-82 7-12 76.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Philadelphia 62 (Geiger 9), Milwaukee 45 (Hill 10). Assists–Philadelphia 23 (Iverson 7), Milwaukee 12 (Brandon 5). Total fouls–Philadelphia 16, Milwaukee 25. A–17,586.

Houston 27 21 24 18–90
L.A. Lakers 24 26 27 29–106

HOUSTON (90) Harrington 6-8 0-0 12, Pippen 6-18 4-4 16, Olajuwon 11-17 0-2 22, Dickerson 2-5 0-0 6, Price 4-8 4-4 12, Miller 1-2 0-0 2, Barkley 5-13 4-6 14, Bullard 0-1 0-0 0, B.Drew 1-4 0-0 3, Carr 1-5 1-1 3, Mobley 0-3 0-0 0, Maloney 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 37-85 13-17 90.

L.A. LAKERS (106) Bryant 8-20 2-2 18, Knight 3-5 1-2 7, O'Neal 7-10 8-14 22, Jones 5-11 1-1 13, Harper 2-5 0-0 5, Fisher 3-8 2-2 9, Rodman 0-2 2-4 2, Horry 1-1 0-0 2, Rooks 3-4 1-2 7, Fox 7-7 2-3 21. Totals 40-73 19-30 106.

Fouled out–Olajuwon. Rebounds–Houston 46 (Harrington 10), L.A. Lakers 50 (Rodman 10). Assists–Houston 19 (Pippen 8), L.A. Lakers 20 (Bryant, Fisher 3). Total fouls–Houston 24, L.A. Lakers 24. Technical–Olajuwon. A–17,505.

Chicago 25 16 31 9 9–90
Toronto 24 19 15 23 7–88

CHICAGO (90) Barry 8-18 2-3 19, Kukoc 5-18 7-8 18, Lang 0-3 0-2 0, Harper 4-17 0-0 9, R.Brown 7-12 3-3 17, Simpkins 5-10 7-9 17, Wennington 0-1 2-2 2, David 3-6 2-2 8, LaRue 0-5 0-0 0, Benjamin 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 32-90 23-29 90.

TORONTO (88) V.Carter 4-11 0-0 8, Oakley 2-10 4-6 8, Willis 8-19 3-3 19, Christie 5-17 2-2 12, A.Williams 3-5 2-2 10, D.Brown 4-13 1-2 13, Wallace 7-12 0-0 14, Stewart 0-2 0-0 0, Slater 1-1 0-0 2, Knight 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 35-92 12-15 88.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Chicago 65 (Harper 13), Toronto 59 (Oakley 12). Assists–Chicago 21 (Kukoc 9), Toronto 21 (D.Brown 7). Total fouls–Chicago 21, Toronto 25. Technicals–Chicago Illegal Defense 2. A–14,173.

Portland 29 20 28 23–100
Minnesota 19 25 26 23–93

PORTLAND (100) Wallace 10-14 1-2 22, B.Grant 1-6 5-6 7, Sabonis 4-9 4-6 13, Rider 8-14 0-0 17, Stoudamire 6-16 0-1 13, O'Neal 0-3 0-2 0, J.Jackson 5-11 2-3 14, Cato 5-6 0-2 10, Anthony 1-2 0-0 2, Williams 1-6 0-0 2, Augmon 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 41-87 12-22 100.

MINNESOTA (93) Garnett 6-11 5-7 17, Smith 4-13 3-4 11, Garrett 3-5 0-0 6, Peeler 4-13 3-4 11, Marbury 8-19 8-11 25, Curley 2-3 2-2 6, Sealy 6-7 1-2 13, Mitchell 1-5 0-0 2, B.Jackson 1-5 0-0 2, Hammonds 0-0 0-0 0, Patterson 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 35-83 22-30 93.

Fouled out–Wallace, Garnett. Rebounds–Portland 61 (B.Grant, Sabonis 8), Minnesota 51 (Garnett, Smith 9). Assists–Portland 32 (Stoudamire 9), Minnesota 22 (Marbury 16). Total fouls–Portland 28, Minnesota 21. Technicals–Wallace, Minnesota illegal defense. A–16,219.

Golden State 25 34 24 6–89
Phoenix 24 28 24 26–102

GOLDEN STATE (89) Caffey 4-10 6-6 14, Mills 5-13 0-1 10, Dampier 2-5 2-2 6, Delk 7-14 1-2 18, Starks 5-15 2-4 14, Jamison 1-4 0-3 2, Marshall 4-13 2-2 11, Cummings 4-9 0-0 8, Coles 3-6 0-0 6, Foyle 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 35-90 13-20 89.

PHOENIX (102) McCloud 3-7 4-4 11, Gugliotta 6-12 8-10 20, Longley 2-4 0-0 4, Kidd 5-11 7-7 17, Chapman 2-7 3-4 9, Robinson 8-13 3-3 20, Morris 3-9 3-4 10, Manning 3-6 1-3 7, Respert 0-1 0-0 0, Garrity 2-2 0-0 4. Totals 34-72 29-35 102.

Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Golden State 60 (Caffey 12), Phoenix 46 (Gugliotta 8). Assists–Golden State 16 (Starks 5), Phoenix 25 (Kidd 11). Total fouls–Golden State 29, Phoenix 13. Technicals–Mills, McCloud, Chapman. A–18,587.

Vancouver 29 26 23 34–112
Denver 35 27 26 28–116

VANCOUVER (112) Abdur-Rahim 5-15 8-9 18, Smith 5-6 2-3 12, Reeves 7-14 2-4 16, Mack 1-4 0-0 3, Bibby 6-9 3-3 15, Massenburg 10-15 7-13 27, Parks 1-3 0-0 2, West 1-4 0-0 2, Wheat 1-2 0-0 2, Mayberry 1-1 1-1 3, Lopez 1-2 1-4 4, Chilcutt 3-4 0-0 8. Totals 42-79 24-37 112.

DENVER (116) Stith 3-5 0-0 9, McDyess 16-25 14-18 46, Fortson 2-7 6-6 10, Billups 5-11 0-0 12, Van Exel 2-6 4-4 8, Alexander 3-8 0-0 7, Clark 3-8 2-2 8, E.Williams 1-4 2-2 4, Washington 3-4 3-4 12, Meyer 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-77 31-36 116.

Fouled out–Fortson. Rebounds–Vancouver 45 (Massenburg 7), Denver 49 (McDyess 19). Assists–Vancouver 27 (Bibby 10), Denver 29 (Van Exel 12). Total fouls–Vancouver 24, Denver 31. A–9,248.

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VEHICLES
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PASSPORT

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3rd time doesn't look like a charm for Maccabi

Tel Aviv faces Kinder Bologna in Game 1 of Final 16 EuroLeague series tonight in Italy

By BRIAN FREEMAN

Maccabi Tel Aviv returns to the EuroLeague Final 16 tonight for the third straight season but with less chance than ever of emerging victorious.

Not only is Maccabi facing the defending European champions Kinder Bologna in the best-of-three series, but is once again without the home-court advantage.

Maccabi has lost all nine encounters in Bologna during championship play – including last season when Tel Aviv lost both games of the Final 16 series there to Kinder's rival Teamsystem.

The loss to Teamsystem came despite the fact that Maccabi entered the series with high hopes, having captured seven European games in a row for its longest winning streak this decade.

But even while playing its best basketball of the season and bringing an unprecedented five-game road winning streak into the series, Tel Aviv could not overcome the Italians on their home court.

The same was true two seasons ago when Maccabi fell in three games – two of them in Istanbul – to Efes Pilsen, despite coming into that series with a clean bill of health after being plagued by injuries throughout the final pool.

This season Maccabi can hardly boast of any type of momentum as it gets set to start the series. It has stumbled to a 7-9 record and won only one out of eight road games – and that against last-place Red Star Belgrade.

Tel Aviv has often looked impressive at home, routing its opponents by an average margin of 24 points in winning six European contests in a row at Yad Eliahu. But a championship-caliber club also has to perform on the road, and Maccabi has been unable to come through in the clutch in numerous close contests.

Bologna, on the other hand, enters the series returning much the same team which brought the city its first EuroLeague title last season and is determined to become the first team since Split captured its third title in a row in 1991 to win consecutive European championships.

Even with superstar Pedrag Danilovic injured for much of the season and Bologna without a second foreigner (after Zarko Paspalj was released and his replacement, No. 1 draft pick Michael Olowokandi, went to the NBA when the lockout ended), the team still finished 10-6 in final pool play while facing tougher overall opponents than Maccabi.

Tel Aviv has another huge obstacle to overcome in that Maccabi finds it particularly difficult to upset quality defensive teams – and Kinder has the best defense in the EuroLeague, allowing 60.9 points a game, more than 10 points less per contest than Maccabi's 72.5.

The team's stifling defense helps make up for a lack of offensive firepower without Danilovic, who has not played due to injury since January 10 after his Player of the Year season last year. Danilovic returned to the court for the first time for an exhibition game last Friday, but it is uncertain at what strength he will be at against Maccabi.

French point guard Antoine Rigaudeau is a quality defender and scorer – including from three-point range – who has improved in all the statistical categories in his second year with Bologna.

Slovenian center Radoslav Nesterovic, 23, doubled his scoring average from last season and is a great presence in clogging up the lane. But for such a big man (2.14 meters) and a No. 1 draft pick in the NBA, he only takes 8.7 shots and pulls down 6.1 rebounds per game (Victor Alexander, for example, averages nearly 13 shot attempts and 9 rebounds a contest).

The only other Bologna player to average double figures in scoring is guard Alessandro Abbio, but his most important contribution to the club is his defensive prowess – which in the series will most likely be utilized against Oded Katash. Abbio is also recovering from injury, and it remains to be seen how this will impact upon his performance.

In fact, Bologna's bench is also better known for its aggressive defense than for lighting up the basket.

Although he usually starts, Alessandro Frosini plays less than 22 minutes a game, but still averages 2.2 steals. In addition, Hugo Sconochini is sent in specifically to shut down a hot hand, while Claudio Crippa and Augusto Binelli provide crucial minutes and valuable experience.

For Maccabi, it seems like the club has been waiting the entire season for the right chemistry to click in – with the swapping of foreign players, the season-ending injury to Borko Radovic, the replacement of head coach Yoram Harush with Pini Gershon and the return of Katash several games into the EuroLeague.

There would be no better time for all the disparate parts to come together, but that is more wishful thinking than based on any trend that can be seen in Maccabi's play.

Tonight's game in Bologna is scheduled to be shown live starting at 9:30 p.m. Game 2 will be at Yad Eliahu on Thursday, and Game 3, if necessary will be back in Bologna the following Thursday.



Kinder Bologna celebrates after winning the European championship last season. (Reuters)

Other Final 16 matchups
Panathinaikos-Teamsystem Bologna
Efes Pilsen-CSKA Moscow
Olympiakos-Varese
Fenerbahce-Real Madrid
Zalgiris Kaunas-Ulker
Villeurbanne-Cibona Zagreb
Olimpija Ljubljana-Peu-Orthez
(home-court advantage listed first)

Kinder Bologna

Player	Scoring average	Minutes per game	2-point shooting	3-point shooting	Free throws
Pedrag Danilovic	19.9	35.9	61.2% (52-85)	32.3% (10-31)	90.0% (45-50)
Antoine Rigaudeau	16.9	33.1	56.8% (54-95)	44.8% (30-67)	82.6% (38-46)
Radoslav Nesterovic	13.0	30.3	62.9% (88-140)	0% (0-0)	68.1% (32-47)
Alessandro Abbio	10.3	31.9	50.0% (29-58)	26.4% (14-53)	83.0% (44-53)
Hugo Sconochini	6.9	24.7	43.6% (17-39)	22.2% (2-9)	73.3% (22-30)
Alessandro Frosini	4.3	21.7	56.4% (22-39)	0% (0-0)	36.8% (7-19)
Augusto Binelli	3.4	14.6	52.4 (22-42)	0% (0-1)	53.8% (7-13)
Daniel O'Sullivan	3.1	9.4	52.2 (12-23)	0% (0-0)	71.4% (10-14)
Claudio Crippa	2.3	19.7	35.3% (6-17)	24.0% (6-25)	63.6% (7-11)

Maccabi Tel Aviv

Player	Scoring average	Minutes per game	2-point shooting	3-point shooting	Free throws
Oded Katash	19.8	32.8	46.9% (46-98)	47.0% (31-66)	88.3% (53-60)
Victor Alexander	17.4	34.5	58.3% (119-204)	0% (0-3)	63.5% (40-63)
Doron Sheffer	12.5	31.2	52.8% (56-106)	36.2% (17-47)	86.2% (25-29)
David Benoit	11.7	30.8	47.4 % (18-38)	53.8% (7-13)	61.9% (13-21)
Nadav Henefeld	5.7	30.0	56.6% (43-76)	0% (0-0)	33.3% (5-15)
Guy Goodes	5.8	16.6	58.8% (10-17)	40.0% (20-50)	71.4% (10-14)
Gur Shelef	5.5	18.3	65.9% (27-41)	50.0% (1-2)	63.6% (14-22)
Derrick Sharp	5.4	12.5	70.6% (12-17)	37.8% (14-37)	88.2% (15-17)
Constantin Popa	3.7	12.4	65.6% (21-32)	0% (0-0)	73.7% (14-19)

Astros aren't ready to give up title hopes

The Houston Astros lost Moises Alou to a knee injury and lost out in the Roger Clemens derby, but general manager Jerry Hunsicker isn't ready to concede his club's position as the decided favorite in the National League Central.

"We're not going to cover up the fact that it was a huge blow to the ballclub to lose Moises," Hunsicker said recently, "but we want to make sure the team isn't feeling sorry for themselves. We recognize that we have a talented ballclub. Not only are we still capable of winning the division. I still expect to win the division."

The Astros still appear to be the most talented team in the division, but the inability to replace free agent Randy Johnson and the injury to Alou undoubtedly have narrowed the ability gap with the other division contenders.

Give Manager Larry Dierker credit for finding a silver lining. He's just happy that the Astros still have enough depth to populate the outfield with three quality players – Derek Bell, Carl Everett and promising Richard Hidalgo – and the potential to offset the offensive subtraction with a solid performance from reclaimed free-agent third baseman Ken Caminiti.

"It's not as big a loss as if we were going to lose (Jeff) Bagwell or (Craig) Biggio because we've got three everyday outfielders that have fielding ability, strong throwing arms and can do some damage with the bats," said Dierker. "We don't have anybody backing up at second base or first base who can do what Bagwell and Biggio can do. Nobody's going to replace Alou, but we've got people who can come close."

The Astros won 102 games on the way to their second straight NL Central title last year, but they needed a 10-1 performance by Johnson down the stretch to run away from the rest of the division.

They had hoped to replace Johnson with Clemens, but now figure to enter the season with 19-game winner Shane Reynolds reclaiming his former role as the club's No.1 starter.

The Astros' front office should be thankful for one other thing: The Chicago Cubs did almost nothing during the off-season to alter the balance of power in the NL Central after finishing close behind Houston last year.

The Cubs made a few marginal moves, signing free-agent catcher Benito Santiago and starting pitcher Jon Lieber, but did not add an impact player to last year's wild-card playoff entry. The club obviously is hoping for a big year from phenom Kerry Wood and another MVP performance by Sammy Sosa to stay in the playoff picture.

Talk about passive resistance. If the Cubs caught a break when Alou went down, they are in danger of being caught from behind by the Cincinnati Reds or the St. Louis Cardinals, both of which took a much more proactive approach during the winter.

The Reds, with their acquisition of former 20-game winner Denny Neagle and 50-home run hitter Greg Vaughn, have re-established themselves as a legitimate playoff contender and are hoping to strike a blow for baseball's economic also-rans. The Cardinals also made a number of off-season moves, but still must wait to see if they are a better club than the one that won 83 games in the shadow of Mark McGwire's record-breaking 70-homer performance last year.

The Cardinals lost outfielder Brian Jordan to free agency and traded Ron Gant to the Phillies to beef up their bullpen, but are banking on big performances from free agents Eric Davis and Carlos Baerga to keep them in contention.

The trouble is, it's highly likely that the only team to reach the postseason from the NL Central next year will be the division champion, since the Mets have upgraded in the East and there are several quality teams in the West.

McGwire confident

McGwire said that he feels confident that the Cardinals have gotten better over the winter.

"The off-season moves were very good," McGwire said. "I like what we did up the middle. We got Eric Davis. Our pitching staff is improved. Our bullpen is strong. I don't think there is a front-runner." Of course, that wasn't the case a couple of weeks ago, when Alou was healthy and the Astros were still pondering the blockbuster deal for Clemens.

"I know everybody gave a sigh of relief when Roger was traded to the Yankees," McGwire said.

He could have been speaking for everyone in the division.

McGwire, looking for a break from last year's sensory overload, traveled all the way to Australia over the off-season in hopes of finding a place where he wouldn't be recognized on the street. He almost succeeded.

"I ran into a lot of American tour groups," he said. "That was the only drawback. I thought I had found a place where nobody knows me." No such luck, but McGwire said that he was treated politely by fans wherever he went after last year's historic home run chase.

"People have been great," he said. (The Baltimore Sun)

UConn wins Big East title for 5th time in last 6 years

NCAA BASKETBALL

NEW HAVEN (AP) – Richard Hamilton gave Connecticut another Big East title and the Huskies also handed Syracuse a little payback in the process.

Hamilton scored 26 points as No. 4 UConn claimed its fifth regular-season conference title in the last six years with a 70-58 victory over the No. 24 Orangemen on Sunday.

Syracuse beat the Huskies 59-42 earlier this season for UConn's first loss. The Huskies (25-2, 16-2 Big East) played that game without Hamilton and Jake Voskuhl because of injuries.

"We definitely had something to prove, especially without those guys (in the first game) and because they beat us," said Khalid El-Amin, who added 21 for the Huskies.

"We wanted to come out and show we're really the best team in the Big East."

UConn, which fell behind by 10 points in the first half, took control in the second.

Syracuse (19-10, 10-8) did not score a basket for a span of 8:30, including the final 3:13 of the first half, as Connecticut rallied from an eight-point deficit with an impressive 23-3 run.

Ryan Blackwell had 20 points and Jason Hart added 11 for Syracuse, which shot just 25.8 percent in the second half, while the Huskies hit 69.6% thanks to 10 fast-break layups or dunks.

"Khalid hurt us the most, particularly starting out the second half in transition," Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said.

"We did not do a good job in transition. We just did not get back well. They went with a smaller team."

Michigan State 60
No. 23 Purdue 46

At West Lafayette, Indiana, Morris Peterson led Michigan State (26-4, 15-1) to its school-record 15th straight Big Ten victory. The Spartans previously clinched the regular-season conference crown.

Purdue (19-11, 7-9) saw its hopes for a seventh consecutive NCAA appearance diminish. The Boilermakers would need four victories in the Big Ten tournament to get the conference's automatic bid.

Tennessee 68,
No. 13 Kentucky 61

At Knoxville, Tennessee, Tony Harris scored 18 points as the Volunteers (20-7, 12-4) upset Kentucky to sweep the Wildcats for the first time in two decades and capture the Southeastern Conference East Division crown.

Kentucky (22-8, 11-5) closed with a fourth consecutive road loss and was led by Scott Padgett's and Michael Bradley's 10 points.

No. 17 Coll. of Charleston 77
Appalachian State 67

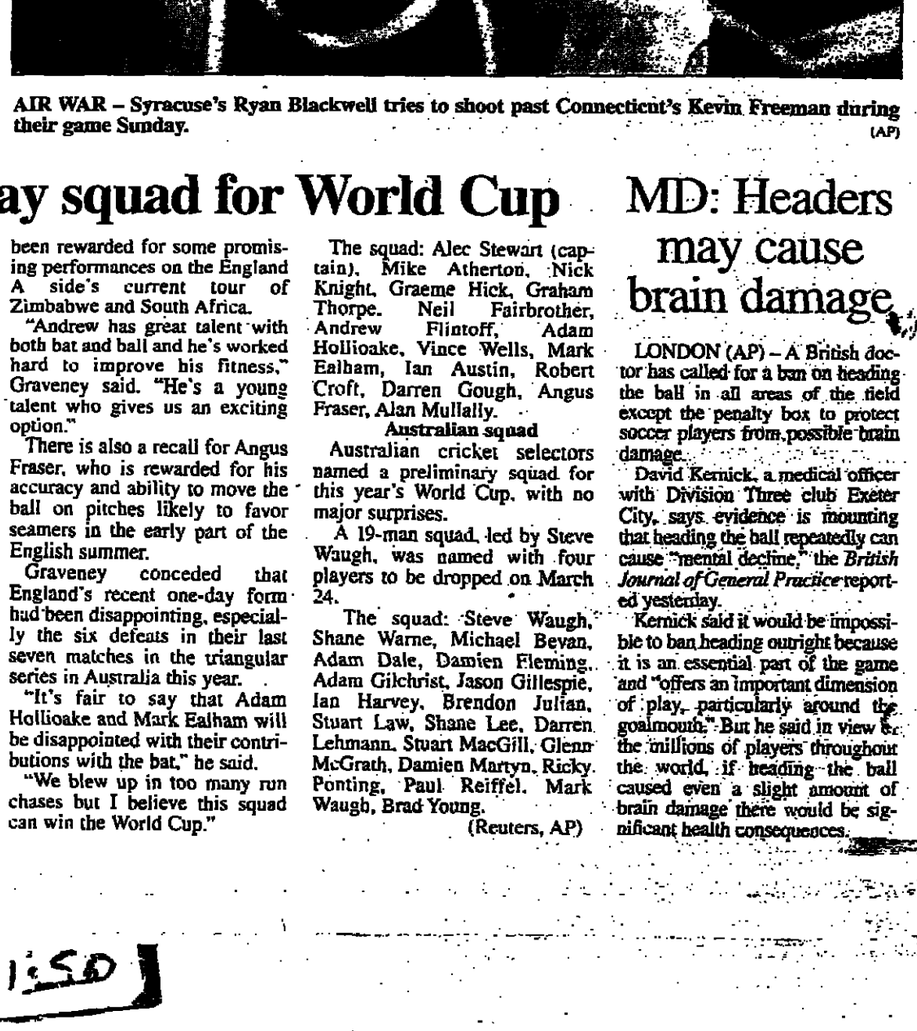
At Greensboro, North Carolina, Danny Johnson scored 21 points, including a clutch 3-pointer down the stretch, as the Cougars rallied to beat Appalachian State in the Southern Conference championship game.

The victory was the 25th in a row for the Cougars (28-2), who earned an automatic berth to the NCAA tournament with the win.

Massachusetts 57
No. 24 Temple 49

At Amherst, Massachusetts, Monty Mack hit five 3-pointers and finished with 18 points as the Minutemen (13-15, 9-7 Atlantic-10) held the Owls to just two baskets for nearly the entire second half.

Lamont Barnes had 14 points and eight rebounds to pace the Owls (19-9, 13-3), who lost for just the third time in 16 games.



AIR WAR – Syracuse's Ryan Blackwell tries to shoot past Connecticut's Kevin Freeman during their game Sunday. (AP)

Atherton recalled to 1-day squad for World Cup

LONDON – Mike Atherton was recalled to the England one-day squad yesterday for the World Cup opening at Lord's on May 14 in a team heavy on experience but light on flair.

Atherton, who has an impressive one-day record in England, has not represented his country in the one-day arena for two years and endured a torrid time against Glenn McGrath in the recent Ashes series.

The former England skipper also suffers from a long-standing back problem and, along with Graham Thorpe and Ian Austin, faces a fitness test before May 2.

Surrey left-hander Thorpe, England's most reliable batsman in any form of cricket, flew home early from the Australian tour with a back injury while Austin has undergone a knee operation.

"Michael Atherton's record in this country is outstanding," England chairman of selectors David Graveney told a news conference at Lord's.

"And Graham Thorpe has been missed in the middle order in both one-day and Test cricket."

The generously-built Austin, a reliable all-rounder with Lancashire but at 32 hardly a bright young prospect for the new millennium, is one of five all-rounders included in the final squad of 15.

Vince Wells, 33, is rewarded for some gritty performances during England's disappointing one-day series in Australia and Adam Hollioake, who has lost his spot as England's one-day captain, has clung on to his place.

Mark Ealham, whose limitations at Test level were again exposed in Australia, has also won selection, with the selectors opting for Robert Croft as the only specialist spinner.

"Graeme Hick will be the second spinner in the squad," Graveney confirmed.

In one concession to youth, 21-year-old Andrew Flintoff has been rewarded for some promising performances on the England A side's current tour of Zimbabwe and South Africa.

"Andrew has great talent with both bat and ball and he's worked hard to improve his fitness," Graveney said. "He's a young talent who gives us an exciting option."

There is also a recall for Angus Fraser, who is rewarded for his accuracy and ability to move the ball on pitches likely to favor seamers in the early part of the English summer.

Graveney conceded that England's recent one-day form had been disappointing, especially the six defeats in their last seven matches in the triangular series in Australia this year.

"It's fair to say that Adam Hollioake and Mark Ealham will be disappointed with their contributions with the bat," he said.

"We blew up in too many run chases but I believe this squad can win the World Cup."

The squad: Alec Stewart (captain), Mike Atherton, Nick Knight, Graeme Hick, Graham Thorpe, Neil Fairbrother, Andrew Flintoff, Adam Hollioake, Vince Wells, Mark Ealham, Ian Austin, Robert Croft, Darren Gough, Angus Fraser, Alan Mullally.

Australian squad

Australian cricket selectors named a preliminary squad for this year's World Cup, with no major surprises.

A 19-man squad, led by Steve Waugh, was named with four players to be dropped on March 24.

The squad: Steve Waugh, Shane Warne, Michael Bevan, Adam Dale, Damien Fleming, Adam Gilchrist, Jason Gillespie, Ian Harvey, Brendon Julian, Stuart Law, Shane Lee, Darren Lehmann, Stuart MacGill, Glenn McGrath, Damien Martyn, Ricky Ponting, Paul Reiffel, Mark Waugh, Brad Young. (Reuters, AP)

MD: Headers may cause brain damage

LONDON (AP) – A British doctor has called for a ban on heading the ball in all areas of the field except the penalty box to protect soccer players from possible brain damage.

David Kernick, a medical officer with Division Three club Exeter City, says evidence is mounting that heading the ball repeatedly can cause "mental decline," the *British Journal of General Practice* reported yesterday.

Kernick said it would be impossible to ban heading outright because it is an essential part of the game and "offers an important dimension of play, particularly around the goalmouth." But he said in view of the millions of players throughout the world, if heading the ball caused even a slight amount of brain damage there would be significant health consequences.

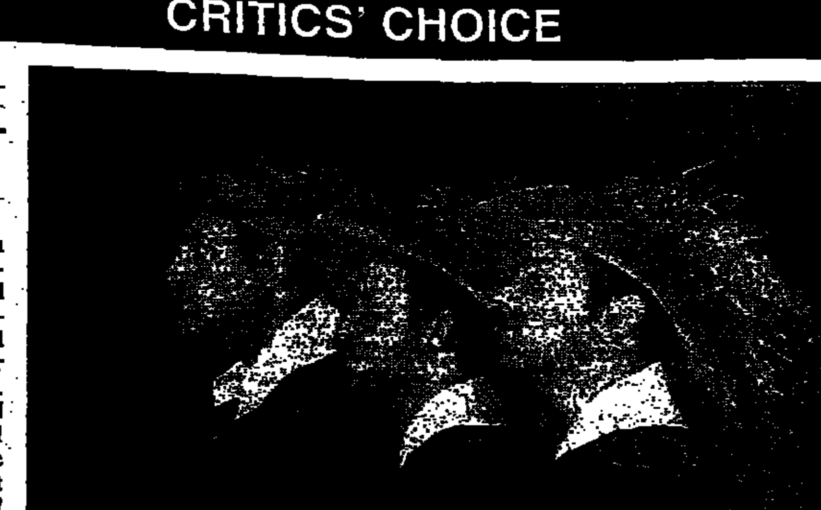


هكذا من الأصل

CRITICS' CHOICE

PURIM

RACHEL BELL



'The Three Musketeers,' Zvika Hadar, Itai Segev and Gil Sassover at the Jerusalem International Convention Center today at 10 and 4.

The Batsheva Ensemble performs Ohad Naharin's light-hearted *Zachacha* for the younger set. Today and tonight at Tel Aviv's Suzanne Dellal Center at 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. In Yaron Yerushalmi's the *Dolly of a Theater* puppet festival continues with *The Frog Prince* at noon and 4 p.m and the Meritza Theater's *Pitzka* at 11:30 and *Itamar Walks on Walls* at 4 in the Inbal theater.(Hebrew).

Jerusalem's Israel Museum throws opens its doors, today and tomorrow, with free admission to the museum. Purim festivities for the entire family will run both days, including *The Hidden Language*, a dance performance highlighting the beauty of classical dance, and geared towards the whole family, for ages 5 and up, featuring the Jerusalem Dance Theater in selections from *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake*.

Workshops for sculpting Purim hats are also scheduled both today and tomorrow. Today at the Israel Museum, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Classical Theater Company has Ben Michael's *Winnie the Pooh*. Today at the Jerusalem Theater at 10 a.m. (Hebrew)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Tomer Lev's intriguing *Last Dance and Farewell* series of concerts with lectures continues with New Temptations.

The program focuses on the connections between the concert hall and the pop world, featuring music by Walton, Gershwin, Joplin, Weill, Poulenc and others performed by soloists and chamber ensembles from the Israel Camerata Jerusalem.

Tonight at the Tel Aviv Museum and tomorrow in Rehovot all at 8:30 p.m.

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Bizet/Horowitz: Variations for Piano from Carmen; Ravel: Rhapsodie espagnole (Berlin PO / Abbado); Sarasate: Introduction and Tarantella; Albéniz: Cordoba; Mendelssohn: Capriccio brillante in B minor for Piano and Orchestra
7:07 Chopin: Les Sylphides; Massenet: Duet from Werther; Glinka: Symphony no 2
8:05 Dvorak: Wind Serenade op 44; Mozart: Violin Concerto no 2 in D K211
9:05 Tallis: Motets and String music; Beethoven: String Trio in E flat op 3; Grieg: 4 Humoresker op 6; Stravinsky: Songs; Beethoven: Sonata no 7 in C minor for Violin and Piano op 30/2; Bach: Cantata no 206
11:10 Light Classical – works by Smetana
13:00 Artist of the Week – Oster Sultan Khan – Sarangee and Voices, North Indian classical music
14:05 Music from Far and Near
15:00 From the Recording Studio – Natasha Tadson, piano / Amnon Peleg, Robert Moses, violins / Avraham Rosenblitt, viola / Naomi Enoch, cello / Avigail Arnheim, clarinet. Dvorak: Piano Quartet in E flat op 87; Rachel Glain: Trio for Piano, Clarinet and Viola; Prokofiev: Overture on Hebrew Themes op 34
16:00 Purim program
18:00 New CDs – Lully: Acis et Galathée
20:05 Bruckner: Symphony no 4 in E flat "Romantic"; Mendelssohn: String Quartet no 6 in F minor op 80
22:00 Sounds from Around the World

■ RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news
6:00 Morning Drive with David Starck and Teisha(until 9:00)
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch with Sharon Wagner and Friends
12:00 Junior Pick of the Hits with Donna Abraham
15:00 M&M's Pic 'n' Mix with Marc Berman and Michal Cohen
18:00 Purim Fun with Dr. G and The Interns
21:00 Purim Westrock, AC from KC, Charlie Warady with Mordecai Shenker
1:00 Late Night Music with Hack

■ BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
8:00 The World Today
9:00 World News
9:15 Outlook
9:55 My Century
10:00 World News
10:05 Performance
10:20 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
10:35 Discovery
11:00 World News
11:05 The Moonstone
11:20 Junction Box
11:50 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Britain Today
12:45 Good Books
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Omnibus
14:00 World News
14:05 Outlook
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 Newshour
16:00 World News
16:05 Discovery
16:30 On Screen
17:00 World News
17:05 Sports Roundup
17:15 Westway
17:30 Everywoman
18:00 World News
18:15 Insight
18:30 Megamix
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 World News
20:15 Britain Today
20:30 Omnibus
21:00 World News
21:05 Discovery
21:30 Seeing Stars
21:45 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
22:00 Newshour
23:00 World News
23:05 World Business Report
23:20 Britain Today
23:30 Meridian (Live)
00:00 World News

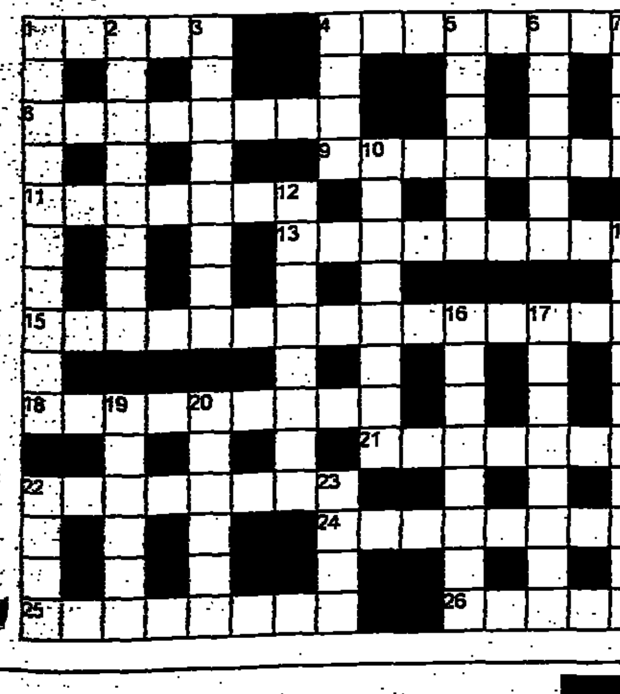
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

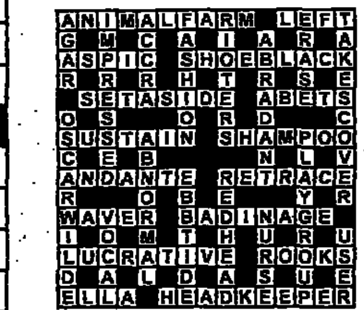
1 Lady unaffected by a reversal (5)
4 Always faithful (8)
8 Does one go round firing it? (8)
9 Remarkably happy in eastern festival (8)
11 Had sitting room for about 500 who had been drugged (7)
13 Going from bad to worse (9)
15 How inferior manufacturers added to our difficulties? (4,6,5)
18 Modern country state (3,6)
21 *Diplomatic* contact fully included (7)
22 Beastly time in the lowest accommodation? (8)
24 Penny saying further, about 50 are using oars (8)
25 Sailors' acid? (8)
26 Soldier obtained some lamb (5)

DOWN

1 Notes lady who is on target? (10)
2 Number getting in split payment (8)
3 Combative Socialist? (8)
4 Heart of a nuclear reactor? (4)
5 Very fine drink going round the circuit (4-2)
6 In the chalk, Alice discovered a chemical (6)
7 Weight-y man? (4)
10 Polly got about, using many languages (8)
12 Kitchen board (8)
14 Permission to begin something—motorists go on it (5,5)
16 Look at cur from monitoring organisation (8)
17 Disturbing bird with fish (8)
19 Small Scotch according to hired mourner (6)
20 New money Pa had from Phoenician princess (6)
22 Second gear for take-off (4)
23 Record I see, say, or poem (4)



SOLUTIONS

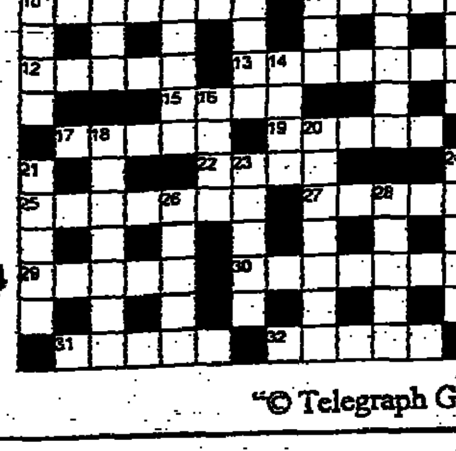


Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Cedar, 4 Light, 10 Creator, 11 Train, 12 After, 13 Cordial, 15 Ever, 17 Trade, 19 Alarm, 22 Rule, 25 Repeats, 27 Arson, 29 Taste, 30 Ransack, 31 Needy, 32 Adept.

DOWN: 2 Erect, 3 Altered, 5 Inter, 6 Heavier, 7 Ocean, 8 Price, 9 Angle, 14 Oral, 16 Vert, 18 Riposte, 20 Learned, 21 Broth, 23 Usury, 24 Snake, 26 Ahead, 28 Scamp.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Hall of justice (5)
4 Get up (5)
10 Three-lobed leaf (7)
11 Higher (5)
12 Beau —— (5)
13 Insanity (7)
15 Line (4)
17 Norse goddess of love (5)
19 Very fat (5)
22 Cattle (4)
25 Bare-headed (7)
27 South American beast of burden (5)
29 Manservant (5)
30 Absolutely (7)
31 Cornish town (5)
32 Decorate (5)

DOWN

2 Complies (5)
3 Abode of large crows (7)
5 About (5)
6 RE troops (7)
7 The theatre (5)
8 Chubby (5)
9 Heraldic device (5)
14 A vast age (4)
16 Classic horse race (4)
18 Snake (7)
20 Out of date (7)
21 Remove beard (5)
23 Point in dispute (5)
24 Greek woodland god (5)
26 Go in (5)
28 Clothes-dryer (5)

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TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

ARABIC PROGRAMS
6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 *Good Morning Israel*

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Hanni's Purim Room
10:00 Sesame Street
10:25 Hanni's Purim Room
11:00 Vis-a-Vis
11:30 Robin Hood – musical
13:00 Hanni's Purim Room
15:00 Sesame Street
15:25 Hanni's Purim Room

■ CHANNEL 1

15:30 Pupurim – Juke Box
15:35 End of the Beginning
16:25 Pupurim – Juke Box (contd.)
16:30 The Simpsons
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 Pupurim – Juke Box
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Apropo
19:00 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Election Special
20:20 With Meni
21:00 News
21:30 Basketball – Kinder Bologna vs. Maccabi TA
22:10 Weekly Lotto Draw
22:15 Basketball – contd.
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 Song for the Day
6:00 Animation
6:43 Reshet in the Morning
9:00 Jude Morning
10:00 National Geographic: Asteroids
11:00 Airborne
12:40 Night Bird Songs
13:00 To Be a Star – children's talent-spotting competition
14:30 News for Your Eyes
15:00 Dream On You
15:30 Popeye and Son
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Street Corner
17:00 Five with Gadi Sukenik
17:30 That's Seventy Show – new comedy series about adolescents in the 1970s
18:00 Popeye
18:05 Viper – Drunken Driving
19:00 Family and a Half
19:30 Election Diary '99
20:00 News
20:30 Candid Camera
21:25 Focus
22:00 Nissim Mishal
23:15 Night Bird
00:00 News
00:05 Night Bird – contd.
00:35 Little Circle
1:30 Half Slave Half Free (1984) – drama about a hard-working black fiddler and a carpenter who fights for his freedom when he is *duped into joining a shady* business deal. With Avery Brooks and Petronia Paley
3:25 From the Concert Hall – Red Sea Classics – *Russian songs*
4:05 Night Song

■ JORDAN TV (31)

Passages from the Koran and news until the end of the official 40-day mourning period (March 20) following the death of King Hussein

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)
(unconfirmed)

7:30 700 Club
8:00 TV Shopping
15:00 Buddy Buddy
15:30 The Bionic Six
16:00 Woody Woodpecker
16:30 White Fang
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic World News
18:00 Colombo
19:30 Ed Sullivan
20:00 The Manager
21:00 Italian Soccer
23:00 Late Show with David Letterman
23:30 CNN Entertainment
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 *700 Club*

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:30 Dictator
17:30 Telekessel
18:00 The Oppressed –
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 Star News
20:00 Traveling Gourmet
20:30 Showcase
21:00 News
21:30 Les allumettes suedoises (French) – six-part drama based on a best-selling Robert Sabatier novel about the author's adolescence in Paris of the 1930s. With Nael Marandin
22:30 Smash Hits – the *best of last year's pop*
23:30 Hollywood Leading Men and Ladies

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Cone Zone
16:00 Boogie's Diner
16:30 The Adventures of the Bush Patrol
17:00 Animation
17:25 Who's Different
17:50 Geography
18:00 Italian
18:30 Photographic Vision
19:00 Jewish Issues
19:30 Mirror
20:00 New Evening
20:30 Simply Style
20:55 Little Big Country
21:00 Muses: Montparnasse Revisited
22:00 *In the Heat of the Night*
22:50 Long Search

■ CHANNEL 3

6:30 Love Story with Yossi Siyas (r)
7:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (r)
7:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
8:10 Celeste
9:00 Falcon Crest
9:45 The Young and the Restless (r)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (r)
11:15 Forever Little Women
12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:30 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Ricki Lake
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Forever Little Women
16:50 Days of Our Lives
17:30 Friends
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 Friends
20:50 Beverly Hills 90210
21:35 Dreams of Youth
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (r)
23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
00:15 Nikita
1:05 Ghost Stories
1:50 Red Shoe Diaries

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Closer and Closer (1995) – a best-selling *thriller novelist is left paralyzed* after an attack by a reader. When she writes a sequel to her serial-killer thriller she discovers a lunatic is copycatting the book. With Kim Delaney, John York and Scott Kraft
13:05 Heavenly Days (1944) – comedy styled upon radio series, about a lovable couple who travel to Washington to run for the Senate. With Jim and Molly Jordan and Barbara Hale
14:15 Washing Machine *Man* (1994) – short romantic film. A middle-aged woman decides to make her husband jealous by pretending to have an affair with the manager of the launderette
14:55 Josh Kirby... Time Warrior: Chapter 3, Trapped on Toyworld (1995) – adventures of a young man who arrives by time travel in "Toy World" and continues to battle an evil inventor
16:30 Josh Kirby... Time Warrior: Chapter 4, Eggs *From 70 Million BC* (1995) – this time the teenage time traveler is trapped by worms that devour his vehicle and weapons
18:05 Lassie (1994) – in this sweet and up-to-date remake of the classic 1950s children's TV show, the faithful dog Lassie aims to save a bratty self-centered kid from himself, not just from external danger. With Helen Slater
19:35 Sentinel – action series
20:25 Happy Gilmore (1996) – comedy about a hockey player who can't skate and makes a career change to pro golf, where *he continues to make a fool* of himself. With Adam Sandler, Christopher McDonald and Julie Bowen
22:00 Sgt. Bilko (1996) – *spoof on the military based* upon the 1950s Nat Hiken television series, about a scheming soldier whose old nemesis turns up seeking *revenge*. With Steve Martin, Dan Aykroyd and Phil Hartman
23:35 Angels in the Outfield (1994) – remake of the 1951 baseball fantasy. With Danny Glover, Tony Danza, Ben Johnson, Christopher Lloyd, Matthew McConaughey and Dermot Mulroney
1:15 Time to Die (1990) – a photographer who was framed by the police accidentally witnesses a corrupt cop killing a pimp. With Traci Lords, Jeff Conaway and Richard Roundtree
2:50 T-Force (1994, 97 mins.) – action thriller about a robotic anti-crime force that gets out of hand and is grounded. The robots rebel and a policeman is sent after them. With Jack Scalia and Erin Gray

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
8:15 Snorks
8:30 Mozart and the Gang
9:00 Fun on Six
9:35 The Smurfs
10:05 Purim on the Children's Channel
10:30 Ninja Turtles
10:55 Batman
11:15 Purim on the Children's Channel
11:45 Following Enchanted *Tales with Itai Segev*
12:10 Purim on the Children's Channel
12:40 Cosby Show (2 episodes)
13:30 Simba, the Jungle King
14:00 Oakey Doky
14:15 Snorks
14:35 Mozart and the Gang
15:00 Fun on Six
15:35 The Smurfs
16:00 Purim on the Children's Channel
16:30 Ninja Turtles
17:00 Batman
17:15 Purim on the Children's Channel
17:45 Following Enchanted Tales with Itai Segev
18:10 Purim on the Children's Channel
18:40 The Cosby Show
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 Full House
20:40 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
21:10 Lois and Clark

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Across the Wide Missouri (1951) – adventure film about fortune hunters *led by a trapper across* Indian territory in 1820s Virginia. With Clark Gable, Ricardo Montalban and Adolphe Menjou
23:15 Happy Go Lovely (1951, 95 mins.) – British musical about the goings-on at a theater production. With David Niven, Vera Ellen and Cesar Romero

■ CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University (rpts from Monday at 23:30)
8:00 Wild Encounters: Moose
8:30 Undersea Explorers: The Coral Reef (r)
8:55 The Heart of Healing: Who Gets Sick (r)
9:45 Vengerov (r)
10:40 Zehetmair and Mustonen (r)
11:55 Shablul: Bears (r)
12:25 Beyond 2000 (r)
12:50 Waitress (r)
13:15 Voodoo (r)
14:10 Futureworld: The Road Ahead (r)
15:05 Nuclear Sharks: Submarine Inferno (r)
16:05 Macedonia, More than a Name – all about this disputed region in the Balkans
17:00 Open University: Cycles of Life; Jewish America: It's Strictly Business; In Search of the Dragon
19:00 Shablul: Dolphin and Shark – children's nature magazine hosted by Michal Yanai
19:35 Beyond 2000
20:05 Anatomy of Love – marriage and courtship in the US, Kenya and Japan
21:00 Futureworld: *Performance Unlimited* – life in the 21st century
21:55 Avalanche – how these destructive occurrences happen
22:50 *Shablul* (r)
23:20 Open University: Lifeline; Price Negotiations; World of Chemistry
1:25 Shablul (r)
1:50 Beyond 2000 (r)
2:15 Anatomy of Love (r)

■ STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 Chicago Hope
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Molly Katzen's Cooking Show
10:00 Snowy River, The McGregor Saga
11:00 Mysterious Island
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 Asia News & World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 LA Heat
15:00 The Pretender
16:00 NYPD Blue
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 LA Heat
19:00 The Pretender
20:00 NYPD Blue
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 The Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr. Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Aerobics Oz Style
2:30 The Brittas Empire

■ NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (17/19)

6:00 A Small Town in China (r)
7:00 CNBC
13:00 Wildlife Tourism (r)
14:00 Clues to the Past? (r)
14:30 Mystery of the Crop Circles (r)
15:00 Wolves of the Sea – *world of the killer whale*
16:00 Esperanza, the Mountain Tapir (r)
16:30 Alligator! (r)
17:30 Atomic Filmmakers
18:30 The Last Frog (r)
19:00 A Small Town in China (r)
20:00 The Mysterious Black Footed Ferret – the *animal thought to be* extinct was rediscovered in 1981
21:00 The Monkey Player – a wandering entertainer *and his monkeys in India*
21:30 Tribal Voice – traditional aboriginal music
22:30 Desperately Seeking Sanctuary – American *wildlife refuge system for* migrating birds
23:30 A Few Acorns More – birds cooperate to survive
00:00 Ornate Caves of Borneo – cave paintings
1:00 Greenhouse Gamble – alternative approaches to global warming
2:00 The Mysterious Black Footed Ferret (r)

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
8:30 USA Direct (r)
7:30 QED: Life on Ice (r)
8:30 The Travel Show (r)
9:30 Hard Talk (r)
10:30 QED (r)
11:30 Hard Talk (r)
12:30 Radical Highs (r)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 QED (r)
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Holiday (r)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 Correspondent (r)
19:30 The Travel Show (r)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (r)
22:30 Reporters (r)
23:10 World Business Report
23:30 Talking Movies – with Tom Brook
00:10 Europe Direct
1:00 World News and Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (r)
2:30 The Travel Show (r)

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (r)
12:30 World Sport
13:15 American Edition
13:30 Biz Asia
14:30 Fortune
15:15 Asian Edition
15:30 World Report
16:30 Showbiz Today
17:30 World Sport
18:30 World Beat
19:00 Larry King Live (r)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

■ SKY NEWS (14/13)

News on the hour
6:30 The Book Show
7:30 CBS Evening News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 Sky World News
13:30 Money
16:30 Your Call
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportsline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 Show Jumping
17:00 Spanish League Soccer
18:30 National Cup Handball
19:30 Sports News
20:00 German League Soccer
21:30 Boxing
22:30 UEFA Cup Soccer - Bordeaux vs Palma

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Athletics
10:30 Nordic Skiing
12:00 Biathlon
13:00 Soccer – Eurogoals
14:30 Equestrianism
15:30 Sleddog
16:00 Nordic Skiing
17:00 Biathlon
18:00 Soccer – Eurogoals
19:30 Trial
21:00 Strongest Man
22:00 Soccer – UEFA Cup
22:30 Live UEFA Cup

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	Election Special	Election Diary '99	Melrose Place	Sentinel	Family Matters Married with Children	Beyond 2000
20:00		News				Anatomy of Love
20:30	With Meni	Candid Camera	Friends	Happy Gilmore	Full House Fresh Prince of Bel Air	
21:00	News		Beverly Hills 90210		Lois and Clark	Futureworld
21:30	Basketball	Focus	Dreams of Youth			
22:00	Weekly Lotto Draw Basketball Cont'd	Nissim Mishal	Yair Lapid Live at 10	Sgt. Bilko	Across the Wide Missouri	Avalanche
22:30			Seinfeld			
23:00			The Tonight Show with Jay Leno			Shablul

MOVIES

JERUSALEM

CINEMATHEQUE 101 Dalmations 10 a.m. • Babe 12 noon • Into The West 4 • A Fish Called Wanda 6 • The Truth About Cats and Dogs 8 • Duck Soup 9:30 • As Good As It Gets 10 **G.G. GIL** Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Dangerous Acts–Affliction–Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 4:30, 7:15 • Lolita–The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show–The Magic Sword–Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30 • The Mousehunt–Paulie 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30 **JERUSALEM THEATER** The Milky Way 7, 9:30 • Washington Square 7, 9:30 **RAV CHEN 1-7** ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 9:45 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30 • The Little Mermaid–Pippi Longstocking– Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 **MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL** ☎ 5700868 Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Stepmom 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword 4:45 **SMADAR** ☎ 5618168 Happiness 7:30 • Black Cat White Cat 5, 10

TEL AVIV

Lolita 11 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 1, 5:30, 10 • Character *(Dutch, Hebrew subtitles)* 11 a.m., 3:15, 7:30 **GAT** ☎6967888 Thin Red Line 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 **GLOBUS** ☎6081130/1 Prince of Egypt–You've Got Mail–ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • *Elizabeth 7:15, 10* • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Head On 7:30, 10 • Paulie 11:30 a.m., 2 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 **G.G. HOD 1–4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Dangerous Acts–The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • *Ronin–The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10* **LEV** ☎5288288 Black Cat White Cat 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Velvet Goldmine 12 noon, 2:30, 7:30, 10 • Happiness 12 noon, 4, 7, 9:45 • Girls' Night 12:30, 5 • The Dream Life of Angels 2:45, *7:30, 9:45 • Hana-Bi 5* **LEV AVIV** ☎6417148 Black Cat White Cat–Girls Night 7:30, 10 • The Dream Life of Angels–Hana-Bi 7:30, 10 • Nights of Cabiria 7:30 • Velvet Goldmine 10 **LIMOR** ☎6968084 he Mighty 6 • The Shall We Dance 8 • Forbidden Love 10 **G.G. PE'ER** ☎5442141 You've Got Mail–Affliction–Dangerous Acts 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer–The Siege 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom–Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • The Little Mermaid–Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 • Parent Trap–Pipi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102674 Opera House Love At Second Glance–Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Little Voice–There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:30, 9:45

HAIFA

CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎8325755 Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30 • Character 7:15, 9:30 **CINEMATHEQUE** ☎8383424 The Idiots 5 • Blind Chance 7:15 • Vertigo 9:30 **MORIAH** ☎ 8242477 Happiness 7:15, 9:30 **ORI** ☎ 8500056 Prince of Egypt 11:30 a.m., 4:45 • Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • Got Mail 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show 7:15, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • The Mousehunt –Paulie–The Magic Sword *11:30 a.m., 4:45* • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 4:45 **PANORAMA** ☎ 8382020 Lolita 4:15, 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 11 a.m., 4:30 • Paulie–Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 4:30 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ *8500055 I Still Know What You Did* Last Summer–Rush Hour 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 867431 Thin *Red Line 6, 9:15* • Love At Second Glance 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Thin Red Line 6, 9 • The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer* 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Little Voice 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7, 9:30 • Something About Mary 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30 • Parent Trap–Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1 • The Little Mermaid 11 a.m., 1, 3 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 The Waterboy 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Little Voice 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7, 9:30 • The Little Mermaid–Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

AFULA

RAV CHEN ☎6424047 The Waterboy– Rush Hour 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7:15, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

ARAD

STAR ☎9950904 Rush Hour–I Still Know What You Did Last Summer *11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10* • The Siege 5, 7:30, 10 • Parent Trap 11 a.m.

ASHDOD

G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 You've Got Mail–ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Gingerbread Man–Under Heaven 7:30, 10 • Paulie–The Mousehunt 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 The Waterboy–Rush Hour–There's Something About Mary 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege 7:30, *9:45* • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Parent Trap–Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m.

ASHKELON

G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 You've Got Mail–ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Magic Sword–Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎6711221 The Waterboy 11 a.m., *5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last* Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour–There's Something About Mary 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Mulan 11 a.m. • Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

BAT YAM

RAV CHEN ☎5531077 The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Lolita 7, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail–Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 1 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 • Mulan–Pippi Longstocking–The Little Mermaid *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

BEERSHEBA

G.G. ORI ☎6103111 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Central Station 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 Thin *Red Line* 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 9:45 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30 • Mulan– *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

EILAT

EILAT CINEMA The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 **GIL** ☎6340182 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • The Negotiator 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • Small Soldiers 5, 7:30

HADERA

LEV ☎6343555 Rush Hour–Girls Night 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 10 • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 5, *7:30 • ANTZ 11* a.m., 5

HERZLIYA

COLONY ☎6902686 Thin Red Line 6:30, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10 **DANIEL** ☎ 9544044 Black Cat White Cat 7:30, 10 **STAR** ☎ 9589068 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5

HOD HASHARON

GIL ☎ 7408591 hin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Washington Square 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m.

HOLON

GLOBUS The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 1:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Paulie–The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 2 **STAR** I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 11:30 a.m., 7:30, 10 • The Siege 10 • There's Something About Mary 11:30 a.m., 5 • Stepmom 7:15 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 5 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 5, 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5

KARMIEL

CINEMA ☎9882521 The Waterboy– Rush Hour 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:15, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

KFAR SAVA

G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Prince of Egypt–The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* –Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 2,

KIRYAT BIALIK

G.G. GIL ☎8779877 Dangerous Acts 7, 9:30 • Lolita 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Stepmom 7, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer–Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege–There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 • The Mousehunt 11 a.m., 4:30 • The Magic Sword 11 a.m., 4:30

KIRYAT SHMONA

G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Siege–You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA

G.G. GIL You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers *11:30 a.m., 5*

UPPER NAZARETH

G.G GIL ☎6561332 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer–Rush Hour 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege–There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, *9:30 • Washington Square 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe* Black 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:15, 7, 10 • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:30, 7

NESS ZIONA

G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Elizabeth 7:15, 10 • *There's Something About Mary* 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m. • Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)*–The Mousehunt 11:30 a.m., 5

NETANYA

G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Dangerous Acts–The Truman Show 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail–Central Station 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers–ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Mousehunt–The Magic Sword–Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 8618570 Thin Red Line 9:30 • The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • The Little *Mermaid (Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

OR AKIVA

RAV CHEN ☎ 6262758 The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7, 9:30 Mulan • *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

OR YEHUDA G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 Meet Joe Black 9:30 • Washington Square–Sliding Doors– The Truman Show 7:30, 10

PETAH TIKVA

G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9087989 The Waterboy 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • You've Got Mail–Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10 • ANTZ–Small Soldiers–Paulie *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • The Magic Sword–Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2 **G.G. HECHAL** ☎ 9317374 Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10

RA'ANANA

CIN MOFET ☎ 7482915 King of the Masks 8:30 **PARK** ☎ 7711321 Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour–I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Happiness 7:15, 10 • Stepmom 5, 7:30 • Life Is Beautiful 10:15 • Wrongfully Accused 11 a.m. • Dr. Dolittle 11 a.m. • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 5 **RA'ANAN** The Waterboy 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Lolita 5, 7:30, 10:15 • You've Got Mail–The Siege–Little Voice 11 a.m., 5, 10:15 • ANTZ–Ever After 11 a.m. • Love At Second Glance 7:30 • The Little Mermaid *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m.

RAMAT GAN

RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 6197121 The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 **RAV-OASIS 1-3** ☎ 6730667 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer–You've Got Mail 6:15, 9:30

RAMAT HASHARON

KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 Lolita 7, 9:30 • Dr. Dolittle 11 a.m., 5 • The Rocky Horror Picture Show 12:30 a.m.

REHOVOT

CHEN ☎ 9362868 Lolita 7, 9:45 • Little Voice 7:30, 9:45 • Central Station 7:15, 9:45 • Character 7:15, 9:45 **RAV MOR** ☎ 9493595 The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • You've Got Mail–Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • Parent Trap 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 • Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 1 • The Little Mermaid–Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5

RISHON LEZION GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 7:30 • *Paulie (Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m. **HAZAHAV** ☎ 9514968 Prince of Egypt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail–Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 10 • ANTZ–Small Soldiers *11:30 a.m., 2, 5* **RAV CHEN** ☎ *9670504 Thin* Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • The Little Mermaid–Pippi Longstocking *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3 **STAR** ☎ 9619985 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 11:30 a.m., 7:30, 10 • The Siege 10 • There's Something About Mary 11:30 a.m., 5 • Stepmom 7:15 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 5 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 5, 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5

SHOHAM

STAR ☎ 9793834 The Siege 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:45 • Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 9:45 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5

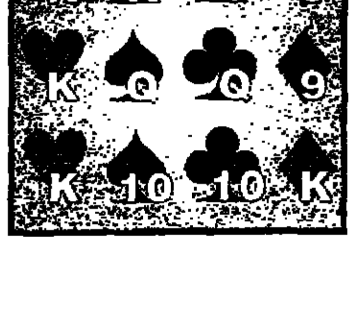
YEHUD

RAV CHEN ☎5367910 The Waterboy–Rush Hour 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life *Is Beautiful* 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Pippi Longstocking–Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1:30, 3

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Telephone reservations (credit card) can be made for Golan Globus (G.G.) cinemas at 1-700-50-50-50

WINNING CARDS

in yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily chance drawing



NHL roundup



Page 17

Maccabi's trial



Page 18

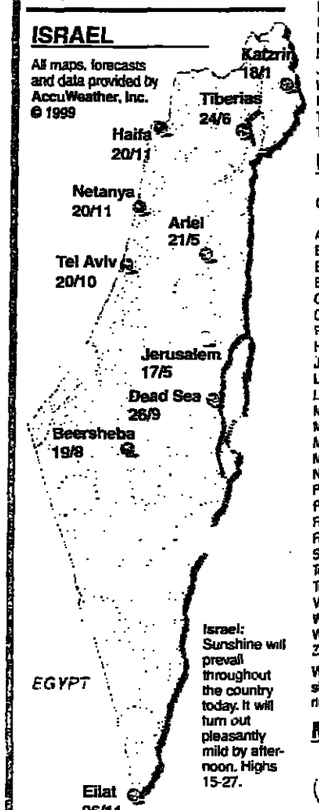
Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

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ISRAEL



Israel: Sunshine will prevail throughout the country today. It will turn out pleasantly mild by afternoon. Highs 15-27.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Wednesday High C/F	Wednesday Low/W C/F
Ariel	21/70	5/41/s	21/70	6/43/s
Beersheba	19/66	8/46/s	19/66	7/44/s
Dead Sea	26/79	9/48/s	26/79	11/52/s
Eilat	26/79	11/52/s	26/82	12/53/s
Haifa	20/68	11/52/s	19/66	10/50/pc
Jerusalem	17/62	5/41/s	16/61	4/39/pc
Katzrin	18/64	1/34/s	17/62	3/37/pc
Netanya	20/68	11/52/s	19/66	10/50/pc
Tel Aviv	20/68	10/50/s	19/66	10/50/pc
Tiberias	24/75	8/43/s	23/73	7/44/s

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

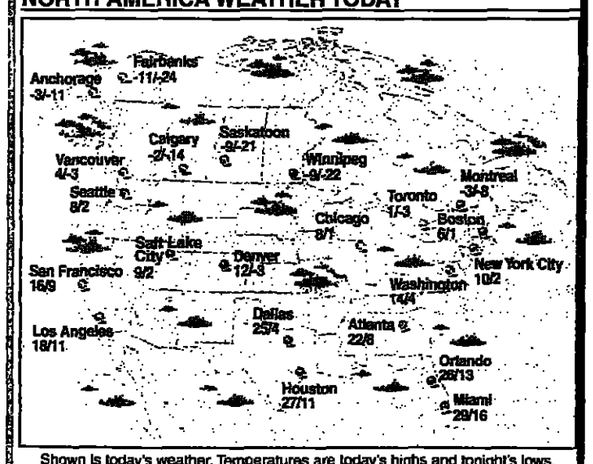
City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Wednesday High C/F	Wednesday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	11/52	7/44/r	8/46	3/37/r
Beijing	14/57	3/37/s	19/66	12/53/s
Berlin	7/44	5/41/sh	11/52	3/37/sh
Brussels	12/53	8/46/r	8/46	3/37/r
Cairo	22/71	9/48/s	24/75	11/52/s
Chicago	8/46	1/34/sh	5/41	-3/27/sn
Frankfurt	7/44	6/43/sh	11/52	1/34/sh
Hong Kong	22/71	17/62/pc	22/71	18/64/pc
Johannesburg	32/89	18/64/s	32/89	17/62/s
London	13/55	6/43/sh	8/46	1/34/r
Los Angeles	18/64	11/52/pc	19/66	7/44/pc
Madrid	16/61	5/41/pc	15/59	3/37/c
Mexico City	26/79	8/46/s	21/70	8/46/pc
Montreal	-3/27	-8/18/sn	3/37	-5/24/sn
Moscow	-1/31	-2/28/c	1/34	-4/25/sn
New York	10/50	2/35/pc	10/50	2/35/r
Paris	12/53	6/43/c	9/48	0/32/r
Prague	9/46	8/48/r	11/52	3/37/sh
Rio de Janeiro	33/91	25/77/t	30/86	24/75/pc
Rome	16/61	9/48/pc	17/62	8/46/pc
Sydney	25/77	22/71/r	27/80	20/68/c
Tokyo	14/57	4/39/pc	9/48	8/46/pc
Toronto	1/34	-3/27/pc	2/35	-9/18/sn
Vienna	8/46	7/44/sh	13/55	9/48/r
Warsaw	4/39	2/35/c	9/48	6/43/r
Washington	14/57	4/39/s	13/55	2/35/r
Zurich	9/48	8/46/r	11/52	1/34/sh

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

MOON PHASES

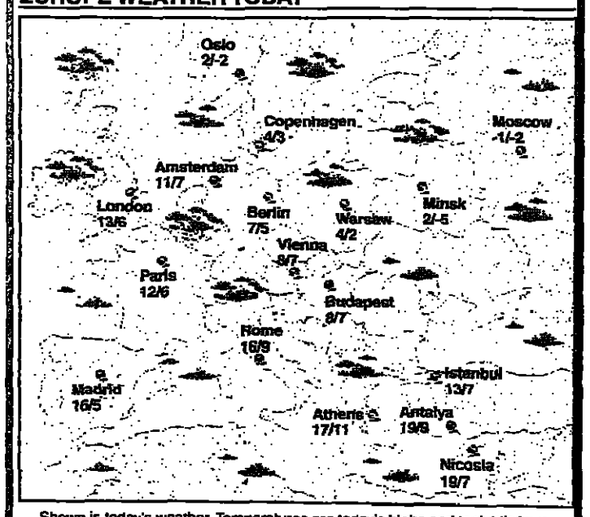
Full	Last	New	First
Mar 2	Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



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EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



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EL AL Weekends

Pippen, Rodman face off as Lakers beat Rockets

INGLEWOOD, California (Reuters) – Michael Jordan was in the house to watch former Bulls teammates Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman play each other, but it was Rick Fox who stole the show on Sunday.

Fox shot a perfect 7-for-7 from the field, scoring 15 of his 21 points with four 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to a 106-90 victory over the Houston Rockets.

With his torrid shooting, Fox upstaged the former Bulls as well as All-Stars Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant of the Lakers and Hakeem Olajuwon and Charles Barkley of the Rockets.

"The shots and the openings were there," Fox said. "I think with the fact that I wasn't in the game in the first half, nobody really paid any attention to me. That allowed me to get open and to shoot the ball the way that I did."

Box scores, Page 17

O'Neal led the Lakers with 22 points and Bryant added 18, but Fox sparked the team in the final quarter when the Lakers pulled away, outscoring Houston 29-18.

"Rick played an unbelievable game," O'Neal said.

Rodman grabbed 10 rebounds and scored his first two points as a Laker in 26 minutes off the bench.

Pippen, Jordan's sidekick for six championships in Chicago, had 16 points, six rebounds and eight assists for Houston.

Olajuwon led the Rockets with 22 points, while Barkley, returning early from injury, had 14 points in 19 minutes off the bench.

Heat 84, Magic 78

The host Heat used stifling defense to hold Orlando to 11 points in the second and fourth quarters and pull out a win over the Magic, their eighth in nine games.

Alonzo Mourning led the Heat with 24 points, countering miserable 5-for-20 shooting by making 14-of-15 free throws.

Terry Porter, starting in place of injured All-Star guard Tim Hardaway, chipped in 17 for Miami, which moved within a half game of Orlando for first place in the Atlantic Division.

Nick Anderson had 25 points to pace the Magic, who led by as many as 20 points early in the second quarter.

Pistons 89, Knicks 68

Joe Dumars scored eight of his 21 points in a decisive 14-0 third-quarter run as the host Pistons crushed New York.

Lindsey Hunter had 16 points and Jerry Stackhouse added 13 off the bench for the Pistons, who scored more points in the third quarter (28) than the Knicks in the entire second half.

Allan Houston had 13 points to lead the Knicks, who scored 27 points on 10-of-34 shooting after intermission and shot just 36 percent overall.

Jazz 101, Spurs 87

Karl Malone scored 30 points and Jeff Hornacek added 18 as the visiting Jazz improved to a league-best 11-2.

The Jazz were in control throughout, leading 79-62 after three quarters and by as many as 24 points in the fourth.

Tim Duncan scored 21 points to pace the 6-8 Spurs, who saw coach Gregg Popovich and swingman Mario Elie ejected from the ill-tempered game.

Bulls 90, Raptors 88

Randy Brown hit a 21-footer at the overtime buzzer to lift visiting Chicago to victory as the Bulls recovered from a fourth-quarter collapse.

The Bulls appeared headed for an easy win when a 15-0 third-quarter run gave them a commanding 68-51 lead.

Chicago fell apart in the fourth quarter, getting outscored by 23-9 by Toronto as Dee Brown hit a 3-pointer with 31 seconds remaining in regulation to force overtime.

Suns 102, Warriors 89

Golden State tied an NBA mark for fourth-quarter futility, scoring just six points in the final 12 minutes, as the host Suns rallied.

In the final period, the Warriors shot 2-of-21 from the field, including 0-of-10 from 3-point range, as the Suns outscored them 26-6.

Clifford Robinson and Tom Gugliotta scored 20 points each and Jason Kidd added 17 for Phoenix.

76ers 87, Bucks 76

Allen Iverson scored 25 points and dished out seven assists to lead visiting Philadelphia to victory for their fourth straight win.

Ray Allen scored 16 points and Glenn Robinson added 14 for the Bucks, who have lost four of their last five.

Trail Blazers 100, Timberwolves 93

Rasheed Wallace scored 22 points and sank a 3-pointer in the middle of a decisive 9-0 fourth-quarter run as the visiting Trail Blazers posted their seventh win in eight games.

Stephon Marbury had 25 points and 16 assists for Minnesota in a losing effort.

Nuggets 116, Grizzlies 112

Antonio McDyess poured in a career-high 46 points and Chauncey Billups hit two clutch 3-pointers in the final 50 seconds as the host Nuggets won, despite blowing a 16-point fourth-quarter lead.



WORMING IN – LA's Dennis Rodman goes up for a rebound against Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon. Rodman had 10 rebounds in the Lakers' 106-90 win. (AP)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	10	4	.714	–
Miami	9	4	.692	½
New York	8	5	.615	1½
Philadelphia	8	5	.615	1½
Boston	6	5	.545	2½
Washington	4	7	.364	4½
New Jersey	2	10	.167	7
Central Division				
Indiana	9	4	.692	–
Atlanta	8	5	.615	1
Detroit	8	6	.571	1½
Milwaukee	6	5	.545	2
Cleveland	5	6	.455	3
Toronto	4	8	.333	4½
Chicago	4	10	.286	5½
Charlotte	2	9	.182	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	11	2	.846	–
Minnesota	8	5	.615	3
Houston	8	6	.571	3½
San Antonio	6	8	.429	5½
Denver	5	9	.357	6½
Dallas	5	10	.333	7
Vancouver	4	9	.308	7
Pacific Division				
Portland	9	3	.750	–
Seattle	8	4	.667	1
Phoenix	8	5	.615	1½
LA. Lakers	9	6	.600	1½
Golden State	6	7	.462	3½
Sacramento	6	7	.462	3½
LA. Clippers	0	12	.000	9

Cullinan 'embarrassed' after breaking record

AUCKLAND (AP) – Daryll Cullinan said he felt embarrassed after breaking Graeme Pollock's South African run scoring record with 275 not out in the first Test against New Zealand.

After Cullinan's innings had inspired South Africa to 621 for five declared, Matthew Horne led a spirited fightback, hitting an unbeaten 92 in New Zealand's 205 for two at stumps on the third day at Eden Park.

"I feel embarrassed," Cullinan said of passing Pollock's 274 against Australia in Durban in 1969-70.

"He was our batting icon and a genius of a batsman. Although I am proud of my achievement it hasn't sunk in yet that I have replaced him at the top of the ladder."

Cullinan resumed yesterday on 246 and passed Jackie McGlew's 255 not out against New Zealand in Wellington in 1952-53 before chasing Pollock's record.

Pollock's nephew Shaun Pollock was the first to congratulate Cullinan as they shared 126 runs for the sixth wicket.

After being sent into bat, South Africa, ground out the New Zealand attack for 13 hours and 13 minutes and finished a run short of the record 622 for nine posted by Ali Bacher's side against Australia at Kingsmead in 1969-70.

Cullinan, provided the backbone of the South African batting as he shared three record stands with Gary Kirsten (128), Jonty Rhodes (63) and Pollock (69 not out).

Cullinan's epic innings lasted 659 minutes and was the longest by a South African batsman, surpassing Kirsten's 650 minutes for 210 against England at Old Trafford in July 1998.

The South African No. 4 walked off to a guard of honor formed by his teammates.

It has been a fairytale return to the South African side for Cullinan, since being axed twice in the space of five matches in early 1998.

He marked his return with a century against Sri Lanka at Cape Town in March 1998, and since has scored 1124 runs in 13 Tests averaging 56.20 with four centuries and as many fifties.

New Zealand won the toss
South Africa, 1st innings
Overnight 562 for five

G. Kirsten c Astle b Allott 128
H. Gibbs b Vettori 34
J. Kallis ... low b Doull 7
D. Cullinan not out ... 275
H. Cronje c Allott b Harris 30
J. Rhodes c Twose b Harris 63
S. Pollock not out 69
Extras (4b, 9lb, 2nb) 15
TOTAL: 621 for five declared
Fall of wickets: 76, 97, 280, 354, 495.
To bat: Mark Boucher, Lance Klusener, Allan Donald, Paul Adams.
Bowling: Simon Doull 33-7-90-1, Geoff Allott 38-5-153-1 (1nb), Dion Nash 28-2-97-0 (1nb), Daniel Vettori 42-8-120-1, Chris Harris 45-10-94-2, Craig McMillan 5.1-0-24-0, Nathan Astle 9-1-30-0.
Batting time: 793 minutes. Overs: 200.1

New Zealand, 1st innings

R. Twose c Boucher b Donald ... 31
M. Horne not out 92
N. Astle c Boucher b Donald ... 41
McMillan not out 21
Extras (16b, 4nb) 20
TOTAL: 205 for two
Fall of wickets: 80, 170.
To bat: Chris Harris, Dion Nash, Matthew Bell, Adam Parore, Daniel Vettori, Simon Doull, Geoff Allott.
Bowling: Allan Donald 17-10-33-2, Shaun Pollock 16-5-40-0 (2nb), Lance Klusener 12-5-23-0, Paul Adams 17-5-61-0, Jacques Kallis 10-3-24-0 (2nb), Daryll Cullinan 2-1-8-0.
Batting time: 305 minutes. Overs: 74

Maggert wins Match Play championship

CARLSBAD, California (Reuters) – Jeff Maggert ended a more than five-year title drought in dramatic fashion on Sunday by winning the Match Play Championship and its $1 million grand prize in sudden death.

Maggert holed a 20-foot chip shot for birdie on the second extra hole at LaCosta – the par-3 11th – to claim victory after he and Andrew Magee had finished 36 holes all square.

"Gosh what a week! It's been a long time, five-and-a-half years since I've been in the winner's circle, and what a tournament to get back in it," said Maggert, who was seeded 24th in a stellar international field of 64 that began the event on Wednesday.

"I'm thrilled to death," added the 35-year-old Maggert, who won his first title at the 1993 Walt Disney World Classic and had not won since.

Magee, who was seeded 50th, was rewarded handsomely for losing, earning $500,000 as runner-up.

Maggert got off to a quick start early Sunday morning by winning the first two holes of what was supposed to be a 36-hole final but took 38 to complete.

Magee woke up in time to win five of the next six holes and seize a 3 up lead.

It remained that way until Maggert won the 13th and 14th holes. But Magee took the 15th to re-establish a 2 up advantage at the break after 18 holes.

Magee birdied the 20th hole to again go ahead 3 up, but Maggert responded by winning the next three holes with two birdies and a par.

The golf got a little sloppy after that in the nip and tuck final. Magee won the 24th with a par, then halved the next – the par-3 seventh – with a bogey after pulling his tee shot into the pond.

Maggert won the 28th hole with a birdie to pull all square again, but Magee nosed back in front with a birdie of his own at the 30th.

Maggert immediately erased the deficit by winning the 31st hole with a birdie. They halved the next four holes to come to the last locked all square after each had won nine holes.

Maggert, who has 13 second-place finishes on the PGA Tour, had a chance to win at the 36th hole, but he just missed a nine-foot birdie putt as the ball rolled past the edge of the cup and the contest went into extra holes.

He made amends for the near miss on the final regulation hole two holes later with his beautiful chip from the fringe dead center into the cup.

In an 18-hole playoff for third place, 27th seed John Huston beat Steve Pate, the 61st seed, 5 and 4.

Most of the best golfers in the world were entered in the $5 million match play event, but the upsets came in bunches from the very first round.

When Maggert beat top seed Tiger Woods in Friday's quarterfinals, the last of the top-20 ranked players was gone.

The top 20 golfers
(US unless stated)

1. Tiger Woods 12.79 points average
2. David Duval 11.13
3. Davis Love III 9.89
4. Ernie Els (South Africa) 9.61
5. Mark O'Meara 9.47
6. Lee Westwood (Britain) 9.07
7. Colin Montgomerie (Britain) 8.60
8. Vijay Singh (Fiji) 8.28
9. Nick Price (Zimbabwe) 8.16
10. Justin Leonard 7.44
11. Jim Furyk 7.27
12. Phil Mickelson 7.19
13. Fred Couples 7.05
14. Masashi Ozaki (Japan) 6.77
15. Jeff Maggert 6.27
16. Steve Elkington (Australia) 5.95
17. Darren Clarke (Britain) 5.75
18. Jesper Parnevik (Sweden) 5.50
19. Payne Stewart 5.37
20. Lee Janzen 5.09



Jordan's mother arrives on visit

Dolores Jordan, the mother of retired Chicago Bulls basketball great Michael Jordan, arrived here yesterday to visit Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital. The woman, admired in the US for her raising a successful family despite early disadvantages – as well as her current charitable work – will tour the hospital on Thursday. In October, she will be guest of honor of a dinner held by the Chicago friends organization of the hospital in her hometown. She will meet with President Ezer Weizman and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert during her visit to Jerusalem. *Judy Siegel*

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